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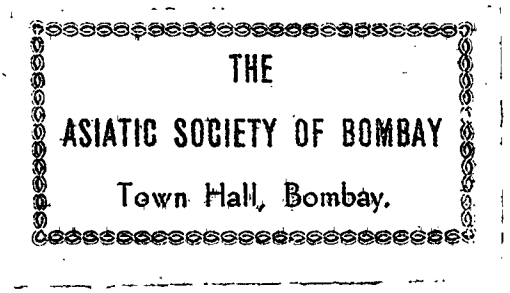


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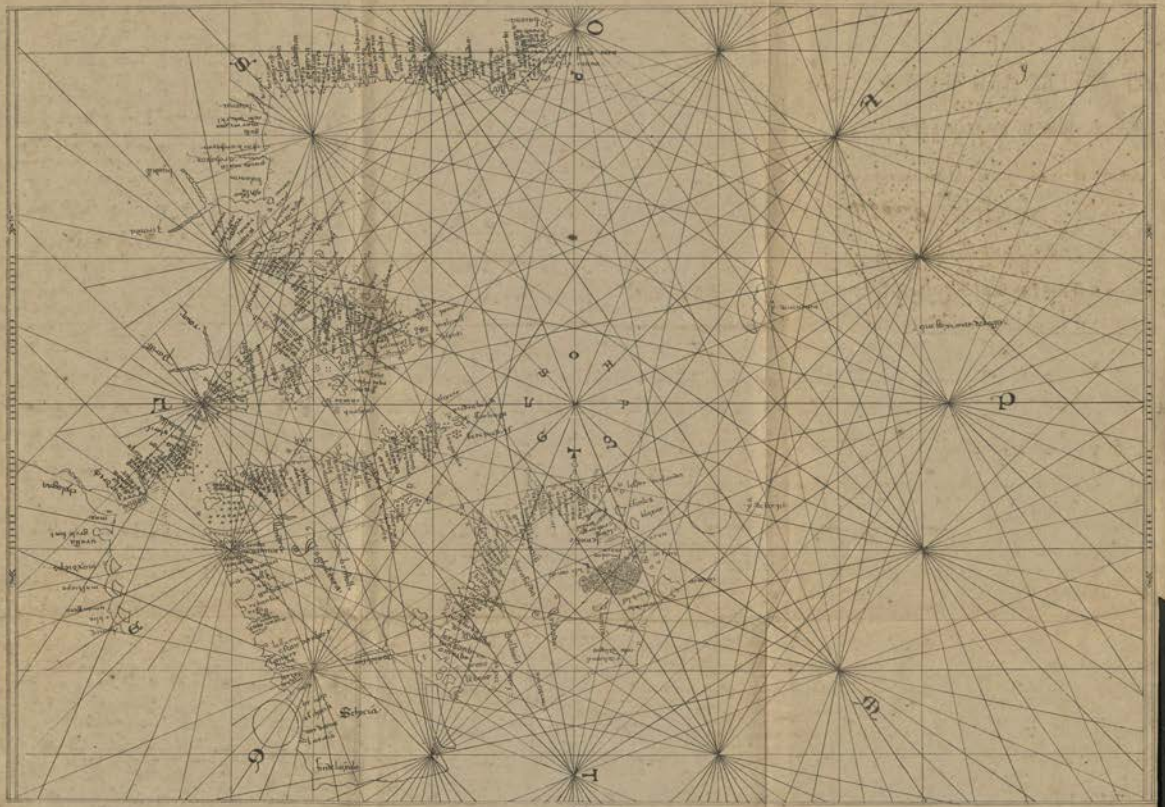

Chart of the British Channel and adjacent seas, executed by the Venetian Andrea Bianco A.D. 1436. Original colored on vellum extant in St Mark's Library. Specimen of hydrography first published for the Venetian Calendar in February 1864.

# CALENDAR

OF

# STATE PAPERS AND MANUSCRIPTS,

## RELATING TO ENGLISH AFFAIRS,

EXISTING IN THE ARCHIVES AND COLLECTIONS OF

## VENICE,

B.2004

AND IN OTHER LIBRARIES OF

## NORTHERN ITALY.

VOL. I.

1202—1509.

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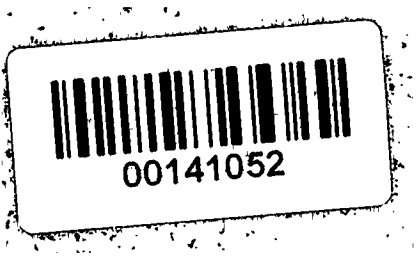


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# PREFACE.

Description of the Venetian Archives.

THE archives of Venice, as they are arranged at the present time, comprise the State Papers of every kind, legislative, judicial, administrative, political, and diplomatic, together with all other documents of public interest which have been collected since the fall of the ancient Republic. The accumulation of MSS. is prodigious; but vast as is the amount, it would have been greatly exceeded if fires and other casualties, which will be noticed presently, had not thinned the records of the Signory.

From a very remote period the whole course of the government had a tendency to multiply official documents; and an elaborate system of centralization exacted the most minute reports and the most frequent correspondence from all who were invested with delegated authority. While the favourite of a despotic sovereign could, like Wolsey, take upon himself the functions of several departments at once, and leave behind him comparatively few traces of his eccentric course, the Venetian official was obliged to report in writing every measure he took, every piece of intelligence he received; and, however great his capacity or his zeal, he could not encroach on the duties of a colleague or go one step beyond what was written.

Their contents;

Every department, every magistracy had its own special "archive," and in it were carefully arranged the files (filze) of original documents, and the registers (registri) in which they were either transcribed or calendared by secretaries, under the direction of a superintendent specially appointed for the purpose. The muniments of the various confraternities, convents, guilds, and other corporations, lay and ecclesiastical, were kept with not less care, and all these multifarious documents have been collected from their

several depositories by the Imperial Government and transferred to the ex-convent of the Franciscans, commonly called the "Frari," where they occupy no less than 298 of its spacious halls and chambers.

their extent.

The depositories (archivj) which have been ransacked to form this great national collection, are, according to the late Abbate Cadorin,[1] not fewer than 2,276, and the volumes and bundles of papers (fascicoli) are estimated by the same authority at 12,000,000, a number which he adds will not appear incredible when it is considered that the shelves occupy the whole of the space from floor to ceiling; that the book-cases have a linear extent of 17,438 feet, and that the volumes are stowed in double rows, and so packed as to economize space to the utmost.[2] This vast magazine of universal history has been arranged with care for the facility of reference, according to the character of its contents, and, with certain restrictions, is thrown open to the researches of the student.

The Marcian Library.

But it is not the only depository of diplomatic and official documents in Venice. Many State Papers, the originals or counterparts of which we shall vainly seek at the "Frari," are now to be found in the Biblioteca Marciana or library of St. Mark This latter noble institution dates its origin from the 10th of September, 1362, and has an especial right to its name, for on that day the Grand Council passed a decree to accept the offer of the "Poet and Philosopher," Francis Petrarch, who in consideration of a dwelling house to be provided for himself for the rest of his life, proposed to leave his books to the blessed St. Mark the Evangelist, "si Christo et sibi sit placitum." The library thus commenced, though now but few of Petrarch's books or MSS. are to be found there, was always an object of special care

[1] Venezia e le sue Lagune, vol. ii., part 2, Appendice, page 1 to p. 25. (Venezia, 1847.)

[2] It must not, however, be forgotten that in this mass of documents are also included the records of the various governments which have ruled Venice since the fall of the ancient Republic.

to the Signory. Its keepers have always been men distinguished for their talents and learning, and the reader will be interested in hearing that two Scotchmen are named in the list,[1] Dempster in the middle of the 16th and the Abbé Leith at the close of the 17th century. The Cardinal Bessarion also bequeathed his library to St. Mark, and this event is connected with English antiquities by a correspondence, which is still preserved, between the Signory and Wolsey, who desired to obtain copies of the Cardinal's MSS. for his own new College of Christ Church. Since these early times the collection has been enriched from various sources, and at the present day yields to few of the most important libraries of Europe in the number and value of its MSS.

The Correr Museum. The Correr Museum was formed by Teodoro Correr, or Correrio, who was born in 1750, and, in early life, filled many important offices under the Republic, which it was his lot to survive many years. He died in 1830, bequeathing his magnificent collection to the municipality of Venice.

State papers there. It abounds in state records of various descriptions, and contains some, of which no copies or duplicates are to be found in the archives.[2]

Design of th present work. The object of the present work is to give an account of such materials for English history as I find in these capacious store houses of state papers, or can discover elsewhere in Venice. But, in order to obtain further memorials of the very early period during which the Venetian archives are comparatively barren, I have extended my inquiries to some of the principal libraries of Northern Italy, especially such as contain the archives of states which, at that time, were

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[1] John Dempster, the librarian of St. Mark's, died in the year 1571. He must not be confounded with Thomas Dempster, the author of "Corpus Antiquitatum Romanarum," published 1613, and of several other historical and archæological works.

[2] A very able account of the "Raccolta Correr" has been published by the keeper, Cavaliere Vincenzo Lazari, who has made several other valuable contributions to the history and archæology of his country.

independent, and are known to have had some direct connection with England or with Englishmen. The papers which have been thus brought to light are highly interesting, and it seemed the more desirable to incorporate them in the present work inasmuch as they are scarcely of sufficient bulk to furnish materials for a separate publication.

First formation of the Venetian archives.

The first formation of the Venetian archives seems to have commenced in very early times with the registry of the "Pacta, or Treaties of the Republic" and "Commemoriali," or miscellaneous memoranda.

Earliest existing State Papers.

The nine volumes of the Pacta, which contain the earliest existing State Papers of the Republic, are only copies, though of very ancient date and of perfect authenticity. The work of transcription was begun in the 14th and completed in the 15th century. The originals have since perished. The two earliest documents thus preserved are, a transcript of the proceedings of the Council of Chalcedon, A.D. 481, and a diploma dated in the year 883, by which the Emperor (Charles le Gros) determined the limits of the jurisdiction of Venice, confirmed her tenure of territory on the main land, and renewed the privileges of the Church of St. Mark.[1]

Of the 10th century, there remain but very few MSS. They are on parchment, and may be consulted in the "Busta Ducali prima." The greater part of the curious documents of that and the two next centuries "disappeared" (to adopt the politely ambiguous phrase of modern writers on the subject) in the confusion which followed the fall of the Republic in 1797; so that it may be safely asserted in general terms that the continuous series of the State Papers of the old Republic begins with the early part of the 13th century, and ends at the close of the 18th.[2]

Handwriting of the MSS.

With the exception of the transcripts just mentioned, the registers are almost contemporary with the documents to which they refer. The most ancient character

[1] Le Chev. L. de Mas Latrie, "Rapport sur le Recueil des Archives de Venise, intitulé Libri Pactorum, &c." (Paris, 1851.)

[2] Cadorin, p. 4.

employed is the Gothic, with some uncial capitals. The next in antiquity is that which is called by the Italian archæologists, the "minuscolo antico," then follows the "minuscolo regolare," both of which, in their general aspect, very much resemble the writing of coeval MSS. in our own Record Office. And there is also observable a sort of transition character, connecting the "minuscolo" with the "corsivo," or running hand, which gradually came into general use, and can be described only as the ordinary Venetian writing of the period. Some specimens of these earlier styles may be seen in the frontispiece. The student who desires fuller information may consult, with advantage, the facsimiles together with the illustrations and explanations contained in the "Programma dell' I. R. Scuola di Paleografia in Venezia," published in 1861–62, by the Signor B. Cecchetti, for the express purpose, says the learned author, of stimulating the youth of Venice to study the history of their country in its state papers, and of affording them the instruction which they will require for the purpose.

Punctuality of dating.

Fortunately, or rather in consequence of the early introduction of strict method into the republican administration, the Venetian official papers are all carefully and fully dated, and thus the student is spared a great deal of ungrateful labour, the amount of which is scarcely appreciated by the reading public.

State of preservation.

For the most part the MSS. are in very good condition. The Registers especially are well preserved, though the "filze" or files of original documents occasionally show marks of the injuries of time. Of the despatches from England by far the greater part are in good order. Of some, however, as, for instance, those of the Ambassador Michiel, in Queen Mary's time, the edges are a good deal chafed and worn away, but the context is almost always intelligible. Some have suffered much from damp. The letters of the Secretary Agostini, from 1642 to 1645, especially those written in the latter part of 1644, are so much defaced from this cause as in some instances to be

nearly illegible. Others written in later and comparatively recent times, as, for example, the letters of the Secretary Imberti, in 1732, and the Ambassador Capello, in 1746, are very much injured by the corrosive nature of the ink, and cannot be read without difficulty; nevertheless, in the shelves of the Frari good preservation is the rule—defacement and decay are the exceptions.

Probable date of decree for first forming the archives.

The decree for registering the "Pacta" and "Commemoriali" has not been preserved, nor has the date been ascertained; but it may with great probability be referred to the reign of Doge Andrea Dandolo, the annalist of Venice and the friend of Petrarch, a prince who has left behind him abundant proof of his care of the national archives.[1]

The first decrees relating to it that now exist, and their dates.

The earliest existing public act concerning the safe custody of the Republic's State Papers was passed by the Grand Council on the 23rd April 1402; and a second edict to the like effect, was issued by the Council of Ten on the last day of October 1459. The former of these two laws, after providing for the due arrangement and preservation of all the political papers of the Republic, enacts that they shall be so kept, that "prying persons shall lack the opportunity of gleaning from them more of our affairs than the Commonwealth intends."

Increased care of the State Papers.

As the importance of the Republic grew and state papers multiplied, we perceive an increased care to arrange and preserve the records; or rather the care which may be traced from early days, became more distinctly and frequently visible. The history of the archives is moulded on that of the Venetian constitution, whose intricate and complicated machinery is faithfully represented by its State Papers.

The journals of the different councils change in character with the successive developments of the constitution.

Every public body had its archives, and the fulness and importance of their respective records vary as the substantial power of the State passed in the lapse of time from one portion of the republican organization to another. Thus a

[1] See a letter of his published in Romanin's Storia documentata di Venezia, vol. i., pp. 354, 355.

brief review of the changes in the republican machinery of government will much assist us in understanding the character of the archives. From the first to the last, the Grand Council formed the sovereign assembly of the State, and to it in the last resort all power belonged. In it, as ultimately constituted, every male member of the families inscribed in the Golden Book had a seat on attaining the age of 25. It met every Sunday, and elected the officers to fill many of the most important posts. Nothing shows the strength of the secret governing power in the Venetian constitution so much as this proof that it could dispense with patronage.

The Grand Council the supreme power in the state.

In early days, when the Grand Council formed the sole deliberative assembly, the Doge and the Minor Council, consisting of six members elected from the six districts of the town, constituted the executive power of the State. As business yearly increased, the Grand Council, from its numbers, became less manageable as an engine of government, and a new body was organized—the Senate or the "Pregadi" (so called because in the first instance its members were chosen by the Doge, at his own good pleasure, and *invited* to sit with him in council for the discussion of state affairs).[1] Subsequently, the number was definitively fixed at 300, of whom 120 were elected by the Grand Council; the rest had their seats in virtue of the offices they held in the State.

In early days exercised the sole legislative authority, the Doge and the Minor Council the executive. Subsequently the Grand Council delegated much of its power to the Senate.

In the meantime the original Minor Council was by degrees expanded into the "Collegio," and formed a privy council or cabinet. It consisted of 26 nobles, who were elected: three deputies from the "Quarantia criminale" (the supreme criminal court); six "Savj grandi," who represented the Senate; six "Savj di terra ferma," who governed the provinces, and in fact formed the "home department" and "war office" of the Republic; and six "Savj ai ordini," who managed the naval affairs, and formed the board of admiralty. At the head of the college were the Doge and his six counsellors, to whom collectively belonged the title of "the Signory," implying the supreme power and presidency

The Minor Council expanded into the College.

[1] Dizionario del Dialetto Veneziano di Giuseppe Boerio.

of the State. They were the visible impersonation of the abstract Republic, which they represented to the Venetian people and the world at large; and their ostensible functions are illustrated by the various "files" and "registers" of the College and the Senate.

Records of the Minor Council are few.

During the first half of the 13th century, the Doge and the Minor Council seem still to have been the governing power of the State; but the only volume now in existence, containing the records of that body, from 1223 to 1253, numbers but 705 entries, of which one alone concerns an Englishman.

The Grand Council continued to register its proceedings to the last.

Throughout the whole existence of the Republic, the Grand Council continued to act, though with various degrees of power, and to register its proceedings. Over-ridden by the Doge and his Minor Council in early times, it seems in the middle of the 13th century to have regained a portion of its influence, or at all events to have exercised a great amount of activity. We find that in 1255 it authorizes the Doge, who probably was a sportsman, to grant permits for the exportation of hawks and hounds duty free.[1] In April 1281 it forbids surgeons to practise until sworn before the justices. In September 1292 it reduces to 20 soldi the penalty of 25 lire, levied until then on equestrians who indulged themselves in riding to and fro from Rialto by St. Salvator to St. Mark's.[2] In 1292 and

Nature of its entries.

[1] Laws of the Grand Council, June 1, 1255.

[2] The words of the decree are as follows:—A.D. 1292, Sept. 4.—"De pœna *equitantibus* per marzariam capta fuit pars quod sicut *equitantibus* per marzariam a Sancto Marco, versus Salvatorem et Rivoaltum, vel inde versus Sanctum Marcum, erat imposita pœna librarum viginti quinque, ita debeat esse pœna solumodo solidorum viginti." An earlier decree to the same effect in the year 1287-8 is quoted by Romanin, Vol. II., p. 39. (Storia documentata di Venezia), in which, however, a courteous exception is made in favor of foreigners. This perverse love of horsemanship seems to have been fashionable in mediæval Venice. Doge Celsi, we learn from the same authority, had a handsome stable and stud of horses on the site of the present palace gardens, from 1261 to 1265; and by a decree of the Chiefs of the Forty (the Criminal Court), horse racing on the square of St. Mark was prohibited on pain of 25 lire, or 25 lashes.

1293 it prescribes the amusements of the citizens, forbidding all games but chess and backgammon; and at the close of the following century, from 1393 to 1396, it regulates the paving and lighting of the town, and even interferes with the winding up of the parish clock at Rialto.[1] But over-meddling is fatal to the influence of a numerous legislative assembly; and already at the commencement of the 14th century its power had passed over to the Senate; nevertheless to the last the Grand Council exercised considerable patronage, and was at least in theory the sovereign body. By it all organic changes, all important modifications of the constitution, were decreed. In 1296 it passed the famous Act which, by restricting the admissions into its ranks, established an exclusive aristocracy; and five centuries later it assembled for the last time, on the 12th May in the fatal year 1797, to decree the inglorious suicide of the great Republic, at the dictation of the French invader.

Journals of the Senate multiply fast; they are arranged under different heads; their titles and contents.

When the Senate became the great engine that ostensibly, and to a great extent, really, worked the wheels of the State, its papers multiplied rapidly. Unlike the journals of the Grand Council, they are subdivided into various classes, the earliest of which is entitled "miscellaneous" ("*Misti Senato*"), and was commenced in the year 1293; but from the catalogue of the Secret Chancery, compiled by Secretary Negri in the year 1669,[2] we know that already at that period the 14 first volumes down to the close of 1331 had disappeared. The contemporary indices on parchment, how-

[1] The order for a new clock at Rialto, is dated 5th December 1393, and the laws about paving and lighting are dated 27th December 1394, and 29th April 1397.

[2] This MS. is the only existing catalogue or general index of any portion of the collection to be found at the Frari. It was compiled between 1660 and 1684; its title is as follows:—"Indice della Secreta, fatto in tempo del Serenissimo Principe Domenico Contarini et delli illustrissimi e eccellentissimi Sign. Battista Nani, Kavalier e Procurator, Sopraintendente alla medesima, e Domenico Ballarin, cancellier grande, dal circospetto Secretario Antonio di Negri, quondam Alberto, L'anno MDCLXVIII (Scritto dal Fedele Zuanne Gasparini, scrittor delle cose antiche.)"

ever, remain; and although they are in many parts well nigh illegible, and throughout are scarcely intelligible from the perplexing abbreviations and the barbarous latinity, yet it was necessary to attempt to decipher them in order to ascertain what little can be known respecting that very early commercial intercourse between England and Venice, which was maintained for two centuries and more by the so-called Flanders galleys. The earliest series of the Senate's decrees now in existence, dates from March 1322 to February 1421, and is continued under the titles of "Secreta Senato," "Corti Secreta," "Senato Terra," and "Senato Mar," down to the year 1797.

The registers "*Secreta Senato*," fill 140 parchment volumes, from 10th April 1401 to 30th June 1630. The "files," or original minutes of these registers, from the 1st March 1510 to the 31st August 1630, are contained in 143 volumes.

The registers "Corti," likewise on parchment, are in number 163; and the corresponding 442 files, date from 6th September 1630 to 29th April 1797.

The third class of the Senate's registers is entitled "*Land*" (Senato Terra), as relating to the government of the main land. They likewise are on parchment, in number 411, from October 1440 to February 1778; the files date from 1545 to April 1797, and are in number 3128.

The fourth class "*Sea*" (Senato Mar), concerning colonial government, Venetian trade in foreign countries, the London "factory," in the 15th century, &c., consists of 247 parchment registers, from October 1440 to April 1796; the corresponding files being 1286, from March 1545 to April 1797.

The Council of Ten constituted in 1310.

But early in the 14th century a new element was introduced into the Venetian constitution, which gradually wrought in it an essential change. In order to prevent a repetition of the conspiracies of Marino Bocconio and Boemondo Tiepolo, the Grand Council instituted the Council of Ten in the year 1310. It was designed in the first instance

to be a supreme criminal tribunal, but by degrees it arrogated to itself the power of meddling with every department of the state. It was, however, a controlling and checking rather than a governing body. It did not direct the ordinary movements of the State machinery, but interfered in cases where the ordinary movements were to be suspended or extraordinary impulses applied.

gradually engrosses the chief control of the State.

The leading idea of the Venetian constitution was to combine the greatest possible vigour of the executive body with the least possible power of the individuals who composed it, and for this purpose on all occasions an ingenious system of reciprocal checks was devised. The Council of Ten consisted in reality of seventeen. The Doge and his six councillors belonged to it ex officio. The other ten, from whom its name was derived, were elected for a year, and of these none could be of the same family, nor in the remotest degree connected with the Doge. But in process of time there was needed another controlling and motive power, less numerous, more secret, and more prompt than even the Council of Ten; and from the members of that redoubted tribunal were elected, in the year 1539, for the first time, as a permanent body, the three Inquisitors of State. The various papers of these two Councils are very numerous, and full of interest to the historian. The first time that the name of the Council of Ten appears in connection with English history is at the close of 1508. Amongst the favourites of Henry VII. was a native of Brescia, Don Pietro Carmeliano, an ecclesiastic, the King's Latin Secretary; and with the hope of obtaining Henry's support against the league of Cambrai, the Ten wrote to a Venetian merchant, resident in London, and also to the Consul Giustiniani, instructing them in return for Don Pietro's good offices to promise him preferment for his nephew, a student at Padua. The name of Carmeliano is not recorded by Lord Verulam in his list of the confidential advisers of Henry VII., but the well-known sagacity of the Ten may vouch for the reality of the credit which they supposed the Latin Secretary to enjoy with his

Inquisition of State definitively established in 1539.

Papers of these two bodies very numerous and interesting.

First mention of Council of Ten in connection with England.

First despatch addressed to the Inquisitors of State that relates to England.

master. In the archives of the Inquisitors the earliest document hitherto discovered by me relating to England is a letter from the Ambassador Hieronimo Lippomano, dated Madrid, 6th February 1587, announcing a plot to poison Queen Elizabeth, and to burn the shipping in the Thames.

Decrees relating to archives generally proceed from whichever Council at the time takes the lead in the State.

No decrees of the other Councils exist relating to the papers of the Council of Ten.

The decrees relating to the preservation of the archives generally proceed from the Council, which at the time is found to be taking the most prominent part in the administration of affairs. The first, as we have seen, were issued by the Grand Council; latterly they emanate occasionally from the Senate, but more usually from the Council of Ten. But no decrees are anywhere to be found which presume to direct the registration of the papers of this latter tribunal, or its offset the Inquisition of State. These bodies had power of their own to preserve or to suppress. Their archives are carefully kept, and we have on record a strong proof of their unwillingness to destroy original documents. In 1406, when Padua had passed under the rule of Venice, and the state papers of her former princes were brought to the ducal palace, a motion was made in the Council of Ten to burn them all. But it was negatived by a majority of nine to seven, and an amendment was carried that they should be locked up in a chest by themselves, as are the minutes of the State trials. (Misti Consiglio X, vol. viii, p. 132). The Council could also, when it thought proper, suppress. The fourth volume of the "Misti Consiglio X" contains its decrees in the year 1355. On Friday the 17th April in that year, Marin Falier was beheaded. In the usual course, the minutes of the trial should have been entered on the 33d page of that volume; but in their stead we find a blank space, and the words—

Proof of its general care to preserve historical documents.

Remarkable instance of suppression.

"Ñ SCBATVR."

"*Be it not written.*"

Care in registering and calendaring very great.

The regulations respecting the archives, whether proceeding from the Grand Council, the Senate, or the Council of Ten, are very precise; the registering is very exact, and

the calendaring is performed with extreme minuteness. In the calendars of despatches every paragraph is noted; the ambassador's reasons for writing or not writing; the visits of ceremony he has paid or received; his protestations of zeal, his promises of vigilance, his professions of respect, all are recorded. In some cases the calendars exist where the despatches are wanting, and from their minuteness they may very adequately supply the place of the originals. In 1668 the archives contained upwards of 2,000 calendared letters written by diplomatic agents from England between 1602 and 1629, though the original letters alone remain: the calendars are at Vienna, but their loss does not entail much additional trouble on the historical student. Calendars so minute require hardly less care of investigation and selection than the original documents. As it may be interesting to the reader to see the method pursued by the secretaries of the Republic in the olden time, a despatch and its calendar have been inserted in the present volume as a specimen.

Manner in which calendaring was executed by secretaries of the Republic.

Secretaries to superintend the various archives were appointed from time to time, and were multiplied in number and increased in dignity as the charge became more onerous and more important. At the commencement of the 17th century a patrician superintendent was appointed to take care of the secret archives of the Senate, with a sufficient staff of under secretaries; and in 1632 the Senate elected a second superintendent for the safe custody of legal documents of a more public nature. Strict decrees were made from time to time to prevent the intrusion of unauthorized persons into the "Secreta;" but by the frequent repetition of these decrees, not less than by the complaints with which their preambles abound, it is clear the regulations of the government were frequently infringed; and, moreover, many special decrees are extant for the admission of learned men, and also strangers of distinction.

Secretaries appointed to take care of the archives.

Rules to prevent intrusion of unauthorized persons.

From 1505 the Signory had a paid historiographer, whose duty it was to avail himself of the papers in the archives,

Patrician historians in connection with archives.

to which he had constant access for the purpose of writing the history of the Republic. The series of these historians comprises 19 names, all of whom, with the exception of Sabellico, were patricians; of their works, none have been published excepting those of Sabellico, Bembo, Paruta, Morosini, Nani, Foscarini, and Garzoni, of whom the four last named were superintendents of the archives.

Diarists.

On the 18th December 1551, in addition to the patrician "*historian*" of the republic, the Council of Ten determined to appoint a secretary as "*annalist*,"[1] an idea which was probably suggested by the voluntary labours of an individual who for many years was the self-constituted and unpaid diarist of the State, and we might almost say, of the civilized world.

The first, Marin Sanuto, self-constituted.

Marin Sanuto, who inherited one of the most illustrious names in the Golden Book, was born in the year 1466. He attained no mean reputation in the literary world of his day, and the eulogistic dedications to him by the elder Aldus prove how highly he ranked as a scholar. His Lives of the Doges, which have since been published in part by Muratori; his History of the War of Ferrara; his Itinerary of the Venetian provinces, and other literary works, were

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[1] The language of this decree is so remarkable, that I venture to transcribe the preamble:—

"Registro 20 Comune, Consiglio de' X^ci, p. 72.

"1551, Die 18 Decembris in additione.

"Delle più utili cose che siano al bon governo de stado, è la cognitione delle cose passate, con la quale si conosce facilmente qual cosa sia da seguire, et quale da fugire qual cosa per non si essere per il passato usata quella diligentia che bisognava, non solamente si perdono li esempi delle attioni passate, ma si sono smarite molte ragioni della Signoria nostra con notabile danno di quella, sopra il che essendo espediente dar qualche bon ordine:

"L'anderà parte che per il collegio nostro, con l'intervento delli capi di questo conseglio sia eletto uno de i Secretarij nostri di Pregadi, il quale per tre anni continui habbia il carico di scriver li nostri annali nella nostra lingua volgare," &c. &c.

much admired by the critics of the time for their accuracy, their careful research, and their lively and spirited style. But his most remarkable work was little seen by his contemporaries, and till lately was still less known to the world, though its value has always been appreciated by Venetian historians and antiquaries.

Detailed account of his great work;

For 37 years, from 1496 to 1533, Marin Sanuto, in the exercise of his duties as hereditary legislator of Venice, and occasionally filling high official posts, made it his business to attend all the assemblies which he was privileged to enter, and also to gather all the news which the "Broglio" (the noblemen's *walk*") on St. Mark's, or the Campo S. Giacomo (the "*Exchange*") at Rialto, could furnish; in short, by every means which a man in high position could employ, by special privilege or personal influence, he collected and chronicled from day to day the news of the world as it was transmitted to the prudent, far-seeing Republic, by her officers and agents of all descriptions.

Moreover, by a special decree of the Council of Ten, he was permitted to have access to the public records; to make extracts from the despatches of ambassadors and governors, and generally from all papers "containing advices of current events from divers parts of the world," and has thus preserved innumerable notices of official and diplomatic correspondence which no longer exists in any of the archives. The work extends to 58 folio volumes, closely written, of an average length of 500 pages each. A diarist has not the power of selection which the historian enjoys: he chronicles the news as it arrives; he describes the actors as they pass before his eyes; he cannot foresee what may become important, nor who may become famous; he records with the fidelity of photography the scene of the moment. The extreme minuteness of the narrative and the multiplicity of details relating to the magistracies and the machinery of the republican government make Sanuto's pages a laborious study for writers and readers of this impatient age. To print the whole would be too hazardous an enterprise for an individual publisher. It

is understood that more than once eminent literary men have proposed to the French Government to undertake the publication. But it is probable that the object would be quite as effectually promoted by inducing the French or some other of the leading Governments of Europe to instruct its diplomatic agents to inquire at the Courts where they severally reside how many copies would be required for the public libraries of each; and when a number of subscriptions was obtained sufficient to cover the cost of publication, there would be no lack of publishers. To make selections from the Diary so as to satisfy the varying tastes and different pursuits of different readers would be difficult. Nevertheless, in this present year 1863, the librarian of St. Mark's Library, Don Giuseppe Valentinelli, has edited for the Historical and Archæological Society of Agram a volume of 476 pages, which contains extracts from Sanuto's Diaries from 1496 to 1515, relating to Southern Sclavonia, and if no publication of the entire work takes place, other literary societies might follow the example and produce very interesting contributions to history by extracting from the diaries the notices relating to their respective countries. In the meantime, to assist the student to the best of my ability, I have given in a preliminary table a concise analysis of the chronological course of this marvellous work.

his ultimate employment by the government;

The Diarist's toil was ill-requited in his lifetime. He began his great work at the age of 30. It was only a very few years before his death that he received a pension of 150 golden ducats, on condition he should bequeath his volumes to the State, a salary which in his will he mournfully "vows to God is as nothing in comparison with the time and labour he is obliged to bestow on his task." He was poor, and on one occasion was subjected to the humiliation of arrest for debt for 24 hours, through the vindictive malice of a fellow noble; and with his habitual minuteness and ingenuousness, he records all the details of the "horrible mischance" (l'orribil caso); the precise spot where the bailiffs seized him, and the "sponging

house" in which he passed his brief and unmerited imprison ment.[1] Sanuto devoted all his income to literary pursuits, which in his day entailed a heavy expense; and occasionally he was obliged to deprive himself of the necessaries of life, to procure the paper and the binding for the greatest of his works. This confession is wrung from him in his reply to the Council of Ten, who asked him to allow the historian Bembo to gather materials in the Diary, and he doubtless felt something of jealousy and mortification at the idea that the verbose and pedantic cardinal would carry away the fame which was the only meed he could hope to obtain for his ill-remunerated labour.

Could he have foreseen how much importance would be attached to his volumes in later days, and how their possession would be disputed by rival sovereigns, his longings for posthumous fame would have been gratified.

Annalists and their works

Of the "*Secretary Annalists*" who were subsequently appointed by the Ten, and who may be considered Sanuto's successors, five volumes exist in the archives, and 58 at Vienna; but so far from resembling his lively and graphic journals, they are a mere collection of official protocols and summaries of the decrees and diplomatic correspondence of the Senate, extending from the year 1549 to 1719; so that besides various subsequent breaks, there is an interval of 16 years between Sanuto's last volume and the commencement of the "*Annals*" by Antonio Mazza, who was the first of his successors of whose labours any trace remains.

Notwithstanding all this care the records much thinned by casualties.

But although the archives of Venice seem to have been guarded with more care than those of any other State, and though her steady government preserved them up to its close from the perils incident to civil war and revolution, yet they have had more than their full share of casualties.

First fire did little damage.

In 1483 a fire broke out in the ducal palace, but though it did irreparable mischief by destroying the con-

[1] Diaries, 19th December 1519.

temporary portraits of the Doges of the 14th and 15th centuries, with other works of art of the highest value, it did but little damage to the MSS. It called forth, however, many precautionary laws for the prevention and extinction of conflagrations; which, like all the other police arrangements of the Republic, prove how much the Signory was in advance of the great feudal monarchies of Europe in administrative science.

Second fire very destructive.

But no legislation will prevent the recurrence of the usual average of human carelessness in combination with untoward accident. In May 1574 the Doge Alvise Mocenigo had given the accustomed state dinner to commemorate his election, and was presiding in the Grand Council, when volumes of smoke which issued from his private apartments above announced that some accident, arising probably from the preparations for the feast or from its consequences, had produced a fearful conflagration. The flames, fanned by a high wind, spread rapidly. The College hall, the antechamber, and the adjoining entrance hall were consumed, and likewise the Senate hall, besides the attic of the Chancery, together with its bookcases and some chests containing papers and "files." The whole pile of buildings, including even the attic of the Ten and the church of St. Mark's, was menaced. A night of frightful confusion ensued. By the minute but not very clear account which is given in the "Cerimoniale," or Book of Ceremonies of the Ducal Palace, No. 1, it would seem that the confusion was augmented by a popular riot, in the course of which some of the prisons were broken open and the prisoners were set free. But all that could be done was effected by the coolness and promptitude of the heads of the government: the Doge with some of his council retreated to apartments on the Place of St. Mark, belonging to the knight and procurator the noble Zuan da Leze or Giovanni da Legge, a name of which we shall hear more presently as that of the first ambassador to England, and which, though no longer found in the Libro d'Oro, is still retained in the British peerage, for the ambassador was the

ancestor of the Earls of Dartmouth. The "Ponte della Paglia," which connects the Place of St. Mark with the long terrace or quay leading to the arsenal, was cleared of the mob and kept by troops, to facilitate the passage of the workmen of the arsenal; and by the courage and dexterity of the latter the flames were ultimately subdued. The Signory to mark their sense of the services of these brave men ordered them a gratuity of 500 ducats, but they refused to accept any payment. On being repeatedly pressed by the Doge, they consented to consult the chapter of their corporation, and by them all remuneration was unanimously declined.

In the meantime the secretaries and their assistants devotedly risked their lives to remove the archives from the attics where they were deposited. In the utmost confusion the MSS. were carried to the Mint, to the neighbouring dwellings, to any receptacle that could be found for them; and there for some days they were left in the greatest disorder. As soon as it was possible they were collected together and taken in sacks to the attic of the chiefs of the Ten and to the Chancery. But that which was wanting could not be numbered, and it was by no means the part which had actually perished in the flames that caused most anxiety to the Signory They were haunted by the dread that portions of the secret archives might have fallen into the hands of the profane vulgar. A rigorous decree was published, by which all persons of every condition whatever were warned to bring within a certain time to the office of the Ten all books and papers of whatever kind or description belonging to the Republic, which might have fallen, no matter how, into their hands, on pain of death; and further enjoining all persons to denounce those who might act in contravention of this decree, on the penalty of being considered accomplices of their crime and of sharing their punishment. Numerous loose fragments and many books and papers were in consequence brought back; but though we do not hear of any persons being convicted and punished for disobedience, it may be inferred from

the known principles of human nature that some, without any adequate motive, incurred the fearful risk of withholding what belonged to the State. To many the possession of prohibited goods holds out a temptation which is only made more irresistible by the consciousness of the attendant danger.

Losses in consequence.

The "Cerimoniale" gives no account of the loss sustained by the archives on this occasion. There is reason, however, to believe that the destruction of diplomatic papers was very considerable. From a memorandum in the file No. IX. of the Minutes (Notatorio) of the Council of Ten, it appears that the calendars of the despatches from Spain were kept in the book-case of the College, which was destroyed; and it may hence be probably inferred that many similar documents, and especially the letters from England by Venetian ambassadors and secretaries from 1497 to 1554, shared the same fate.

Gaps in diplomatic correspondence.

The diplomatic agents employed in England during this period were amongst the most remarkable of the statesmen of the Republic, but no records of their despatches are preserved, except the summaries of their contents given by Marin Sanuto, and such copies or drafts of their letters as have found their way to private collections and to St. Mark's and other public libraries. The earliest despatches from England now existing at the Frari are those of Giovanni Michiel, whose credentials to Queen Mary were delivered in the summer of 1554; but the consecutive series of his despatches does not commence until March 1555; though the file contains three earlier letters, dated London, 11 and 12 June, and 12 July, of the previous year. It is therefore probable the rest of his correspondence perished in the fire of 1574.

Third fire not less destructive.

Only three years later, on the 20th December 1577, another fire broke out, which ravaged that part of the ducal palace and the archives which the former conflagration had spared. On this occasion it was the hall of the Grand Council, that of the Senate, and that of the Scrutiny that suffered. Works

of art on the walls by the early Venetian masters, of not less beauty than historical interest, were destroyed; amongst which the "Cerimoniale" enumerates pictures by the three Bellinis, by Titian, by Tintoretto, and by Pordenone. The archives suffered much, but still more perhaps from the confusion of removal than from the effects of the fire.

The flames were extinguished as before by the workmen of the arsenal, who, as before, declined all remuneration, though this time the reward of their exertions was tripled, having been raised to 1,500 ducats. Again, from the edict-stone at St. Mark's, and from the "Hunch-back" at Rialto,[1] was thundered forth the denunciation of capital punishment to all who should presume to retain in their possession any fragment of the papers of the Signory, and we may presume with much the same results.

These disasters were thought sufficiently important to be communicated to foreign courts. The ambassador at Madrid, Badoer, writes that the Imperial ambassador had spread such exaggerated reports of the calamity, and had maliciously persisted in offering such hyperbolical assurances of condolence, that on receiving the true account he himself as the representative of the Republic could not wait for the return of the King to Madrid, but immediately addressed to His Majesty a letter to undeceive him as to the extent of the damage sustained. Philip II., as may be supposed, on learning the misfortune which had befallen the most serene Republic, was vastly concerned; and then, in the see-saw phrase which Goldsmith ridicules,[2]—but which, in spite of ridicule, must remain the stereotyped form of condolence to the end of time,—on hearing that the consequences were

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[1] The stooping figure called the "*Gobbo*," is still visible on Campo S. Giacomo, at Rialto, and fronts the steps from which the crier proclaimed the edicts of the State. The edict-stone at St. Mark's is situated on the square at the *southern* angle of the church, beneath a porphyry head *supposed* to indicate capital punishment.

[2] Vicar of Wakefield.

less serious than was apprehended, he was "vastly glad again." But little as the haughty Philip might care for the losses of his ally, the modern student will find in all that remains of the lost documents in the shape of calendars, indexes, or incidental notices, good reason to regret the void thus made in the series of Venetian despatches.

French invasion in 1797.

From this time the precautions taken by the Signory against fire were effectual, and there are no further losses from that cause to record. But in the year 1797 the last hour of the Republic had arrived. The stately routine of the aristocratic government, its complicated machinery, its imposing ceremonies, all presented to the eye the same aspect as of old; but vital energy was extinct. The French under the victorious General Buonaparte advanced to the shores of the Lagunes; and with that mixture of fraud and force which made the progress of the revolutionary armies so abhorrent to all generous natures, the French secretary of legation[1] organised within the city all the agencies of treason to second the foe without. The Council of Ten, the Inquisitors of State, were not less vigilant nor less well informed than of old, but the spell of their power was broken. They feared to provoke by resistance an enemy whom they might have known no submission could mollify. A deputation was sent to learn the fate of the prostrate Republic from the irresistible invader. It consisted of the noblest and the most respected of the Venetian statesmen. They were received with the studied indignities which were among the general's choice weapons of diplomacy. His practice was first to mortify and degrade, and then to negotiate. But it is not our present purpose to tell the sad story any further than it affects the archives. The commissioners returned bearing with them the doom of the Republic. She was to die—and, like the slave of some Roman Emperor or oriental despot, she was ordered to be her own executioner.

[1] *See* "Memoria che può servire alla storia politica degli ultimi otto "anni della Republica di Venezia." (London, Rivington, 1798, p. 370.)

Fall of the Republic;

On the 12th May 1797, the Grand Council, confirming two previous motions, made on the 1st and 4th of the month, gave its commissioners full powers to treat with the commander-in-chief of the French army; 512 ayes against only 30 noes, and 5 neutral balls, decreed the establishment of a provisional government;[1] and forthwith a democratic republic affiliated with that of France was proclaimed. Old prophecies, some of which had been gravely recorded, and commented on by Sanuto three centuries before, referred the final doom of the Republic to France; but considering the probability which in all ages has been obvious of such a fate, there is no need to attribute this prediction to more than ordinary foresight.

new constitution;

subsequent confusion and unauthorized pilfering.

Instantly on the change of government, as is usual in such ebullitions of the body politic, the scum rose to the surface, and robbery, more or less disguised, was practised in all departments.

Francesco Donà (or Donato), the last patrician superintendent of "the archives of the Privy Chamber," retired. The Provisional Government took possession of the "*Secreta*," in the name of "Liberty, Equality, and the Sovereignty of the People," and the work of spoliation commenced.

In the first instance, the liberating republic insisted on sharing her adopted daughter's plunder.

Surrender of 500 MSS. by treaty.

By a secret article of the treaty of Milan, it was stipuluted that 20 pictures and 500 MSS. were to be surrendered to the conqueror. No mention was made of the archives; they were probably forgotten, but when the arrival of the citizen Bertholet, and subsequently of Monge, Tinet, and Barthelemi, was announced to make the selection, it was further proposed that as the French republic might not want so many as 500 MSS. from the library, the citizen commissioners should treat with the Republic of Venice for the exchange of some of these MSS. for other objects of

Pillage of the archives.

[1] Romanin, vol. x, part 2, pp. 178 179.

interest and value; an arrangement, it was added, "which would be highly advantageous to both the republics." [1]

To this vague and arbitrary proposal no resistance could be offered,—

> Vuolsi così colà dove si puote
> Ciò che si vuole:"—DANTE: *Inferno*, Canto III.

and the despicable body calling itself "La municipalità provisoria di Venezia" had as little the inclination as the power to question the despotic will which called it into life.

Under the name of an "exchange" for imaginary MSS., were taken away the antique cameo exhibited in the library, and the bronze horses of St. Mark, together with many other objects of rare beauty; and, what most concerns us, a despotic order from the commander-in-chief (who did not even palliate the rapine by the pretext of "exchange") decreed *the removal to Paris* [2] of the entire series of despatches written by the diplomatists of Venice accredited at foreign courts, from the middle of the 16th century to the fall of the Republic. For these, and a great variety of maps and other papers of curiosity and interest, formal receipts were given, the authenticated transcripts of which are now preserved in the archives, and were obligingly communicated to me by the present director, the Count Girolamo Dandolo. And besides all these acts of spoliation, the archives of the magistracy of fiefs (feodi), containing the title deeds and the judicial decrees affecting the greater part of the landed estates of individuals, were forcibly taken away; for what purpose it is not easy to say.

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[1] "*Busta 2d.*," in the archives marked, "O. S. Democrazia, 1797." Document signed, "Le Ministre plenipotentiaire de la Republique Fran-"çaise, Lallement."

[2] "Pour être transportés à Paris." Copies of eight documents in the archives, transcribed in March 1816, by the Director Chiodo, from the papers of his predecessor Marin. The consignment of the despatches to the French Commissioners took place on the 11th December (21 Frimaire) 1797.

At such a time, when the property of the Republic was in the hands of an irresponsible and ephemeral government, and was exposed, moreover, to the depredations of foreign commissioners who represented the despotism of their employers, and to all the subordinate agents of those commissioners; it is no wonder that many precious objects not named in the above-mentioned receipts were lost for ever; and in the impossibility of apportioning the blame with certainty between foreign plunderer and native thief, the bare fact of the loss can alone be stated. The public and avowed depredations, however, were a direct infringement of the treaty of Campo Formio, by which, in the meantime, Venice had been made over to Austria, and by the 13th Art. of which it was expressly stipulated that all the archives, maps, and public papers of every description should on both sides be given up with the ceded countries to which they respectively belonged; and, of course, justice and common sense required that no fresh abstraction of property should take place from a territory already assigned to another. But a time of revolutionary war is not the season of justice and common sense.

Cession of Venice to Austria by treaty of Campo Formio.

In the meantime, before the arrival of the Austrians, the Provisional Democratic Government, at the instance, doubtless, of the learned keeper of St. Mark's Library, Don Jacopo Morelli, made some efforts to enrich that noble establishment with part of the spoil of the fallen Republic; and, together with many other treasures, they transferred to it from the archives the 58 volumes of Sanuto's Diaries, which luckily had escaped the rapacity of the French Commissioners.

Removal of certain MSS. to St. Mark's Library.

When, in virtue of the treaty of Campo Formio, Austria took possession of Venice, in January 1798, the new government made the most active exertions to collect the receipts which the French commissioners had given, and to obtain accurate information as to the amount and the whereabouts of all the missing property of the late Republic.

These receipts are highly curious: the first of them is dated

in the month of "*Annebbiatore*," as the month of November was nicknamed, for the affiliated Republic had adopted, in a monkeyish spirit of imitation, the calendar and all the other fooleries of her elected mother; but in spite, or rather in consequence, of her servility, she had been treated as the prize of war, though she had never struck a blow, and had been sold to Austria by the victorious general to suit his convenience, or, if his own declaration may be believed, to gratify his resentment.[1]

Disputes between the French and Austrian governments respecting the Venetian MSS.

The missing State Papers immediately became the subject of remonstrance and negotiation between the foreign offices of France and Austria, but the conqueror was not prone to make restitution, and he probably from the first considered the arrangements of Campo Formio as merely temporary.

Removal of some of the MSS., M. Sanuto's diary included, to Venice.

Early in the year 1805, when a renewal of the war was imminent, the Austrian cabinet thought it desirable to remove Sanuto's Diaries, together with other historical records, to Vienna for safe custody: and there were accordingly sent from Venice 44 cases, containing, among other State Papers, the calendars of those despatches which had been previously carried away to Paris.

Treaty of Presburg; cession of Venice to France.

The precaution was not taken too early: war quickly ensued, and as quickly ended in disaster. On the 5th of December of the same year, by the treaty of Presburg, Venice was ceded to France, to become part of the kingdom of Italy. Again, in the treaty of cession, an article was inserted similar to the 13th of the treaty of Campo Formio, which stipulated for the restitution of all archives, public papers, maps, and plans; and accordingly in lieu of the 44 cases which had been sent to the Austrian capital, 45 were returned; but they did not contain either the diaries or the calendars. It was now the turn of the French Government to remonstrate; but before the dispute was settled the astonishing events which succeeded each other with such stunning rapidity on

Renewed disputes between the governments respecting the MSS.

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1 "Mémoires de St. Hélène."

the battle-field diverted the imperial foreign offices on both sides from the diplomatic routine of complaint and subterfuge, till the final settlement of Europe, in 1815, left the Austrian Government in undisputed possession of the prize. At the general peace, 417 MSS. and printed books were restored to the Library of St. Mark's, and 2125 files of Venetian despatches written from foreign courts in like manner found their way eventually to the Frari.

Final restitution in 1815.

The original diaries of Marin Sanuto remain at Vienna, but a careful copy had been made of them by the last historiographer of the Republic, the patrician Francesco Donà, who died at Padua in the summer of 1816, and by him was bequeathed to St. Mark's Library. In consequence of the confusion into which his affairs had fallen, his executors neglected, for some months, to comply with his directions; but at length, in February 1817, this precious legacy was recovered for the Library by the Abbate Morelli; and for all practical purposes it is more useful, inasmuch as it is enriched with ample indexes and is more legible, than the original MS. Permission to peruse these Diaries is granted most liberally, and it is no small addition to the student's enjoyment to be enabled to pore over Sanuto's graphic pages amidst the scenes to which they refer and the memorials of the men whose deeds they record.

Copy of M. Sanuto's diaries in the Marcian Library.

It was in this same year 1817, that it was determined by the Imperial cabinet to collect together the scattered archives. Some partial efforts of the same kind had previously been made. In 1807 what then remained of the contents of the Secret Chamber had been removed to the Scuola di S. Teodoro. The judicial records had been deposited in the ex-convent of St. John Lateran, and the documents relating to the revenue were collected at S. Provolo, but now one general measure of consolidation was decreed. The situation of the convent of the Frari in the centre of the town, and its vast size, recommended it as the fittest building for the purpose; and to this receptacle, in the year 1818, the contents of the various archives were removed.

Decrees for collecting all archives and muniments at the Frari in 1817.

Labour of arrangement and classification.

There now remained only the work of arrangement and classification, a herculean labour which has been accomplished with great ability. The thanks of the literary world are due to the municipality of Venice, for the first attempt to give to the public a detailed account of the manner in which this task has been executed. By their directions, the late Abbate Cadorin furnished an interesting paper on this subject as a contribution to the Guide Book, which they were preparing as an appropriate greeting to the Scienziati, or Literary Institute of Italy, on occasion of their first meeting in Venice, in the year 1847. Since then some alterations in the arrangement have been made, but not important enough to affect materially the utility of the Abbate's essay. His work, however, was not original; it was compiled from a MS. entitled "Piano sistematico per la distribuzione e collocazione di tutti gli archivi, &c.," which was written by the late director of the archives, Jacopo Chiodo, and is still preserved at the Frari.[1]

Both the latter described by the Abbate Cadorin,

but planned by J. Chiodo.

Chiodo's division into four compartments, according to subject matter.

According to this "systematic arrangement," the great collection at the Frari is divided into four compartments ("Riparti"),—political, judicial, commercial, and territorial, and each compartment into divisions, containing separate archives, and subdivided again into heads and sections

[1] There have also been drawn up under the auspices of the French ministry of public instruction, some interesting notices of the Venetian archives, especially of the Libri Pactorum et Commemorialium, by the able and learned historian of Cyprus, the Chevalier de Mas Latrie. A third account of the archives, by Count Sagredo, has appeared in the "Archivio Storico," an historical miscellany published at Florence. M. Armand Baschet, who is well known to the world by his deservedly popular work "Les Princes de l'Europe au XVII^e^ Siècle," published an interesting account of the Venetian archives in 1857. And lastly, in the Chevalier Alfred Reumont's able work on Italian diplomacy, the reader will find many extracts from the Venetian state papers which relate to the intercourse between the maritime republic and this country; and also an account of the Secret Chancery, written by its first Patrician superintendent, A. Morosini, which is the more valuable, as the original document is no longer to be found in the archives.

corresponding with the complicated organization of the public offices of the Republic.

The infinite network of subordinate divisions are useful study for the historian of Venice.

It would be foreign to our present purpose, and uninteresting to the general reader, to give a detailed description of this minute classification. Nothing, in fact, can at first sight appear more dry and repulsive than the intricate labyrinth it presents to the eye; but to the student whose object it is to illustrate the history of the Republic, no preliminary study could be more useful for the right understanding of its constitution than to trace the various ramifications of its administration, and to thoroughly understand the refined and elaborate mechanism by which the great Republic maintained for centuries its complicated system of government. Nor is it safe without examination to condemn any portion of the archives as uninteresting, for it is impossible to guess what may lurk under the most unpromising titles. For instance,[1] if the student desires to learn anything respecting the buildings and the architects of the Republic, he must turn to the records of the salt office—because the salt tax furnished funds for the public buildings. Thus, too, all particulars relating to wills are to be found in the "water-bailiff's" office, because the legacy tax defrayed the expense of keeping the lagoons in repair, and we may find in one and the same page of the Senate's journals a contract, a patent, and a treaty. The materials for the history of science, to be found in these archives, are very abundant. The practical arts and the applied sciences were carried to a high state of perfection in Italy, before they were spoken of north the Alps. The drainage necessary to redeem the alluvial lands formed by the rivers which bring their tribute of soil as well as water to the Adriatic; the prodigious breakwater constructed to roll back the waters of the Gulf, and many other works of a like nature, make the records of the magistracies "delle Acque," and "del Piovego" of the greatest interest to the engineer. The papers relating to the navy, the fortifications,

Difficulty of rejecting any of the papers from a perusal of their titles only.

Instances of miscellaneous information to be found under the least promising heads.

[1] *Vide* Essay by Count A. Sagredo, Archivio Storico.

the cultivation of waste lands, and many other similar matters are highly curious. Nor was abstract science neglected. Venice had the merit of patronizing Galileo. There is still existing a decree[1] which appoints him to the chair of mathematics in Padua, and praises him for having lately invented an instrument derived from the secrets of *perspective*, for rendering objects visible at a great distance.

The first of Chiodo's divisions, which is headed political, engrosses the English reader's interest.

It is obvious, however, that for the foreign student the first or "political" compartment possesses an engrossing interest, and in order to assist him in tracing its intricate ramifications, and in mastering its technical nomenclature, I propose giving in a preliminary table a synoptical view of the classification of those portions of the collection in which the materials for history are most abundant. In the meantime I shall only attempt to give the reader a general notion of some of the chief sources of information, and of the use to be made of them. But as yet no general catalogue has been made, and till this important deficiency has been supplied, little at the best can be done to lighten the toil and difficulty of the student's researches.

Synoptical view of the classification premised, in preliminary table.

No general catalogue exists of the State Papers.

Popular account of principal sources of information.

The political compartment is composed of three leading divisions:—1. The Ducal Chancery. 2. The Secret Chancery. 3. The Papers of the Council of Ten.

The Chanceries of the ancient Republic were two; one styled Ducal, the other Inferior, both having for their president the Grand Chancellor, an officer elected from the order of secretaries (the highest class of citizens), and not from the ruling aristocracy. In the Ducal Chancery were preserved the public state papers of various kinds. In the Inferior Chancery, or "Archivio proprio del Doge," were set apart the laws and regulations affecting the Doge, ("promissioni ducali,"[2]) the investigations into the conduct of the deceased Doges, all papers relating to their elections, their patronage, and in short everything that concerns the

[1] In the Register "Senato Terra," date, 25th August 1609.

[2] Each Doge was presented with a copy, which was illuminated at his own expense. Doge Grimani's copy, 1521, may be seen in the British Museum.

functions, the duties, and privileges of the ducal office. These two are now united.

The ancient division of the papers into secret and ostensible.

In the far famed "Secreta," adjoining the Senate hall, which is now occupied by "alligators stuffed and other skins of ill-shaped fishes,"[1] were kept of yore the papers relating to the more delicate and difficult transactions of the State. These now, since their removal to the "Frari," are included in the same department with the Ducal Chancery; and may of course be expected to furnish the most interesting materials for the historian.

The Ducal Chancery, however, amid the various legislative decrees of the Great Council and other public bodies, contains much that throws light on the history of foreign countries. The nine volumes of the "Pacta" before referred to have also supplementary portfolios containing treaties down to the 12th May 1797.

The registers of the "Pacta" and the "Commemoriali," contain treaties, and beside them drafts of acts, diplomatic instructions, private correspondence, tariffs, commercial transactions, lists of prices current, reports of government officials, and of unaccredited merchants trading in foreign parts, respecting commerce, sanitary laws, political economy, though the name was not yet invented; and amongst these many notices are to be found relating to this country and the early development of its commerce, and illustrating generally the history of civilization in Europe.

The transactions with the Court of Rome occupy a prodigious amount of space in the Republic's files and registers of all sorts, and are of considerable value to the student of mediæval history. The great magazine of all ecclesiastical lore, the Vatican, is virtually closed against the prying eye of historian or archæologist; but the shelves of the "Frari" are open, and there is probably no other collection which affords such facilities for becoming acquainted with the complicated ecclesiastical system of the

[1] The apartment is now the Museum of Natural History belonging to the Venetian Institute.

"Corte Romana." The heading of "Roma expulsis," which is given to some of the public decrees relating to church matters, might at first sight puzzle the student, but it refers to a custom which is curious and highly characteristic of the long-sighted caution of the Signory: it is prefixed to decrees in the discussion or passing of which no part could be taken by patricians who had any connexion with Rome by means of dignified ecclesiastics of their family dependent on the Pope; and who, accordingly, were compelled to withdraw when matters on which their judgment might be biased were brought forward.

The archives of the Council of Ten, embrace every variety of subject: discovery of the correspondence of E. Courtenay.

The papers of the Council of Ten are of the highest value and embrace every variety of subject, inasmuch as they appertain to a body whose supervision was universal, and whose powers were without definition or limit. When the printing of this volume was far advanced, the Signor L. Pasini obligingly communicated to me some papers belonging to the archives of this redoubted tribunal which he, in conjunction with the Cavalier Toderini, had been instructed by the Director, Count Dandolo, to examine. They were remarkable as being the first series of letters written in the English language which had as yet been found at the "Frari," and they proved to be a portion of the correspondence of Edward Courtenay, Earl of Devon, who died at Padua of low fever, though not without suspicion of poison, in September 1556. We know from Mr. Turnbull's Calendar (p. 253) that at the instance of Peter Vannes, ambassador from Queen Mary to the Republic, all the papers found in the deceased Earl's chamber had been consigned to the "Podestà"[1] of Padua, till the Queen's pleasure was known, and that they were ultimately given up to her representative. But upwards of ten years ago, in looking over the letter files of the Council of Ten, I found several entries respecting these papers which much

[1] The Podestà at this time was Bernardo Giorgio, a classical scholar and Latin poet. He wrote an epitaph for Courtenay, which was published by Scardeon in 1560.

excited my curiosity. In the first place it was ordered that they should be brought with the utmost secresy to Venice; next that the cabinet which contained them should be opened by a skilful workman sworn to silence; in so careful a manner that no trace of his operations should be left; then, that the papers should be inspected by the Chiefs of the Ten; and finally, that certain letters marked with a cross should be subtracted, after which the cabinet should be closed and returned to the Podestà of Padua. There is good reason to believe that at this time Edward Courtenay was a tool in the hands of the French Court, and the Signory probably had some strong interest in obliging the French ambassador, or in concealing from Mary the intrigues of her weak and ambitious subject. As I have been unable to discover the mark of the cross on the letters now brought to light, it is impossible to identify them with the papers referred to in the minutes of the Council. But if they are not the same, when did they pass into the possession of the secret tribunal? or were other letters also, besides those marked with a cross, subtracted from the deceased Earl's cabinet? Further search may perhaps explain the mystery, but in the meantime it is premature to discuss the question, more especially as this correspondence does not belong to the period embraced in the present volume.

their state trials important to the historian:

Not unfrequently the records of the state trials before this secret tribunal may be found to throw important light on history. In their archives are 45 portfolios labelled "Processi Criminali." The earliest of these is dated 5—16 October, 1607, and contains at great length the investigation of the attempted assassination of Fra Paolo Sarpi. These papers, when compared with the despatches of Francesco Contarini, ambassador at the time to Paul V., strongly confirm the suspicion of the wounded man, who exclaimed "Agnosco *stylum* curiæ Romanæ!" when they showed him the dagger which was extracted from his temples, and is still preserved in the Correr museum. We find too from

e. g. investigation into the attempted murder of Fra Paolo Sarpi by a bravo,

an entry in the "Esposizioni," under which title are registered the statements of foreign ambassadors, that this attempted murder is connected in a way altogether unexpected with English history; for on the 15th October, 1607, Sir Henry Wotton told Doge Donato that the blow was struck by a Scotchman, who frequented the English embassy; although he passed by the name of "Giovanni Fiorentino figliolo di Paolo."[1]

who turns out to be a Scotchman.

One circumstance mentioned in the investigation curiously illustrates the manners of the day. A druggist was commissioned to ascertain if the dagger was poisoned, and in due time reported to the chiefs of the Council of Ten that he had tried it on a dog and on a chicken, and that as both these patients were convalescent, he hoped the theologian of the Republic would recover also.

The most fertile source of information the diplomatic papers; but the intelligence respecting one country often to be found in the papers relating to another.

But it is to the diplomatic archives that the student of foreign history turns with chief interest. I must premise, however, that it is impossible to collect all that relates to any given country by searching only the papers that professedly relate to it. Much valuable material varying in amount according to the political importance of the country in question, will be found in the correspondence of ambassadors at other courts.

Instances of this.

Thus, for instance, the love letters of Queen Elizabeth (Sept. 1579) to Anjou, are enclosed in the despatches of Lippomano, the Venetian ambassador at the court of *the Louvre*. From *Brussels* in July, 1556, the ambassador Badoer writes that, to counteract the policy of Charles V. and Philip II., who proposed bestowing the hand of Elizabeth Tudor on the Archduke Ferdinand, Henry II. would affiance Mary Stuart to Edward Courtenay. In November, 1559, Giacomo Soranzo, who had formerly been accredited

[1] Esposizioni Roma, 15th October, 1607. "Io dirò alla Serenità vostra "una cosa che forse non sia più intesa, vien detto che quel Giovanni "Fiorentino figliolo di Paulo, et è quello che ferì il Padre Maestro Paulo, "sia di nacion Scocese, et si trattenesse sotto nome di Fiorentino, et sia "stato in casa mia più volte, &c."

to King Edward and Queen Mary, wrote from *Vienna* that Queen Elizabeth complained of never having received any love token from the Archduke Charles, with whom her marriage was then in course of negotiation; whereas Tiepolo writes from *Toledo* on the 30th January 1560, that she was more inclined than ever towards the Archduke, and that she had placed his portrait at the head of her bed. In June 1566, Leonardo Contarini announces from *Augsburg* the arrival of Dannet (a diplomatist of whom mention is made in the "Compleat Ambassador," p. 136,) to resume the long-suspended negotiations. In September, 1567, we find the ambassador Michiel at *Vienna*, discussing this marriage with the Earl of Sussex; and early in 1568 he transmitted to the State the copy of a letter from *Gratz*, to the effect that the match was more than ever distasteful to the Archduke, who eventually gave his hand to Mary Anne of Bavaria. From *Roma* on the 6th May, 1570, the ambassador Surian transmitted the Bull of Pope Pius, which excommunicated "the Pretender "Elizabeth"; remarking that, "now and then, his Holiness "assuredly allows himself to be too far transported by his "zeal, which, although such becomes a good Pope, yet "would it profit much more, if exercised with greater "caution; and in this matter of England the least mischief "thus caused will be the persecution and martyrdom of the "best catholics in the kingdom." On the other hand, the Bailo or Venetian ambassador at *the Porte* announces that the Sultan Amurat is so much pleased with Elizabeth's embassy to him (the first ever sent by an English Sovereign to Constantinople[1])—that he compares her to the Queen of Sheba, and himself to Solomon. From *Spain*, as might be expected, the Venetian despatches transmit the most minute and accurate intelligence respecting the preparations of the

[1] It was also one of the most successful. W. Harborn, the ambassador, by his dexterity and perseverance established such relations with the Porte as to free entirely our Turkey trade from its previous dependance on France.

Armada from 1585 to 1588; and similar instances might be multiplied without end.

Language of the diplomatic papers.

Conformably to the general practice of Europe, Latin is the language of all the documents in the archives, with rare exceptions, down to the close of the 15th century, and of the missives of the Republic to its ambassadors, among the rest; but from the few despatches of early date which remain, we may infer that the ambassadors began to reply in Italian about the year 1470. In St. Mark's library there is a portfolio of letters from the ambassadors Contarini and Priuli in Hungary, A.D. 1479, which are written in Latin; but in the same library the series of letters written by Zaccaria Barbaro from Naples, between 1471 and 1473, are in Italian. In the "Deliberazioni Senato" we find the Republic still writing in Latin to the ambassador in France, Hieronimo Zorzi, on the 4th of January 1488; but on the 9th of October 1492, two missives from the State, the one addressed to the captain of the Flanders galleys, the other to the Venetian consul in London, are both written in Italian, although the decree for writing them is registered in Latin. In February, 1496, the Republic wrote to Francesco Capello, the ambassador in Spain, in Latin, announcing its assent to the admission of Henry VII. into the "Holy League," but on the following 29th March a ducal missive on the same subject, addressed to the Signory's negotiators in London, Contarini and Vallaresso, is written in Italian, which language was thenceforth used habitually for official correspondence with diplomatic agents, although the commission given to the ambassador Andrea Trevisan on the 12th June 1497 on the eve of his departure for England, is in Latin. At Burgos, in May 1524, the ambassador Gaspar Contarini presented Charles V. with a Latin letter from the State, whereupon the Emperor observed, "I am a bad Latin scholar, I will have it read to me bye and bye." In February 1603, Doge Grimani wrote to Queen Elizabeth in Italian, and four of her letters to the Republic, from March 1582 to March 1585, are in the same language, though in general our sovereigns corresponded

with the State in Latin. The English ambassadors generally used Italian in all their communications with the Signory, though some few instances of the use of Latin may be found as late as the close of the 17th century. The general use of French was not introduced till later, and it is only in very recent times that English diplomatists make their written communications with foreign courts in English.

The diplomatic papers of the State may be ranged under the following heads :—

The diplomatic papers may be classed under six heads.

I. The instructions or commission given to the ambassador on his departure.

II. The despatches written by the State.

III. Newsletters which accompanied the despatches, having been compiled in the ducal chancery, for the information of foreign powers; these newsletters were styled *advices*, "avvisi," and although they no longer exist in the archives, a collection of them, commencing with the year 1510, may be seen at Vienna.[1]

IV. The despatches written by the diplomatic agents during their missions.

V. Advices transmitted by the ambassadors from foreign courts.

VI. The "report" which the ambassador read to the College and Senate on his return.

Account of each.

The instructions which were given on his departure are interesting, as showing what was the great object which the Signory had in view in sending the mission. The despatches of the Government contain their directions for the guidance of their agent in all the various changes which affairs may undergo, and not unfrequently do both these classes of documents suggest the reflection, how little the wisest politician can foresee the points on which the results he dreads or desires, ultimately turn.

The despatches of the Envoys are written with the most perfect regularity, and with the utmost minuteness of detail.

[1] Archivio Storico Italiano, vol. v., p. 457.

The despatches to whom addressed,

According to official form, the bulk of them are addressed to the Doge as the head of the Republic whom he represents; this part of the correspondence containing the ostensible business of the embassy was destined for the College and Senate; but matters of more intricacy and delicacy were communicated in separate letters addressed to the Doge and the Council of Ten; and a third series of letters more secret still, bore the address either of the chiefs of the Ten or of the Inquisitors of State, who in like manner, when necessary, corresponded directly with the diplomatic agents of the Republic.

except in one set of despatches from England cypher rarely used.

Of the letters sent from the Court of Queen Mary by the ambassador Michiel, about one sixth part is written in cipher. But other instances of cipher in the despatches from England, now preserved at the Frari, are rare. Some of the secret passages written in the month of April 1555, evidently relate to the release of the Earl of Devonshire from the Tower, and of the Princess Elizabeth from Woodstock.

Of the "advices" or "newsletters" the most interesting to the student of English history are those forwarded by the Venetian ambassadors in France; they are in number 239, all with the date of London, and ranging from the 21st June (N.S.) 1645, to the 16th May 1652 (N.S.)

The Reports, their origin;

Very early in the history of Venetian diplomacy, on the 22d December 1268, the Grand Council decreed that all ambassadors on their return should report their diplomatic proceedings; the Signory being bound to supply them with a clerk to write out the narrative[1]; and on the 24th July 1296, the ambassadors having apparently reported of late years solely to the Doge and his councillors, it was further ordained by the Grand Council, that the reports should be delivered in the council by which the ambassador had been appointed.

By these two acts, within 15 days of his return the ambassador was bound to acquaint the State with the result

[1] Journal Grand Council Fractus, "Et Dominus Dux et Consiliarii "teneantur dare Notarium qui hæc scribat."

of his observations in such fashion as he believed to be "*ad* "*proficuum et honorem Veneciarum.*"

Such was the origin of the famous Venetian "Reports" or Relazioni; and by degrees it became the custom to add a geographical description of the country, and also an account of its climate, its products and manufactures, the temper and disposition of the people, their manners, laws, and customs, the sovereigns and their ministers, and all that was known of their characters and tempers, down to a description of their personal appearance and their dress. These reports were listened to with critical interest, and much pains were usually bestowed on their composition. They do not profess to narrate historical facts; they are compendiums of the information which the writers had collected, the records of the impressions they had received. As it was the rule, though often infringed in practice, that no envoy should remain at the same post more than two years, a series of the reports of successive ambassadors gives the changes in manner, temper, and appearance of the same personages in their progress from youth to age, and thus imposes an useful check on the modern historian, who is apt to form his idea of each personage in the great drama from the exhibition he makes of himself at some particular period, and practically to forget that he was ever otherwise, or appeared in other light to his contemporaries. It is not easy now to remember that Mary Queen of Scots was not always fair and young, that Elizabeth was not always wielding a truncheon as at Tilbury Fort, that Henry VIII. was not always "corpulent and cruel."

their nature;

their value;

When these reports had been read it might be supposed that they were all deposited in the secret chamber, but from the Negri Index, compiled in 1669, we learn that the number to be found there was then very small, whereas the quantities which have been found in other quarters is very considerable. In early times public curiosity was much excited respecting them. The Envoy of the Signory was always

an object of great respect at the court where he resided. The Republic was singularly careful to choose fit representatives, and no government in the world was ever more free from the defects of favoritism or jobbing. Wicquefort holds up the agents of Venice as the model of diplomatists, and Lord Chesterfield advises his son in whatever court he resides to cultivate by all means the society and friendship of the Venetian ambassador. It is not wonderful then that their reports were eagerly sought for, and that many of them got abroad in versions more or less correct. Even in the 16th century there was a sale of Venetian MS. reports in Rome at the rate of 15 pauls per hundred sheets. In 1616, the Secretary Lionello found a series of his countrymen's reports, also in manuscript, in the Bodleian library at Oxford;[1] and in the year 1621 we find the Venetian ambassador in Rome, Francesco Contarini, purchasing there a report of England, compiled by himself eleven years previously, which, he remarks, "contained in substance divers particulars existing in the true report "delivered in the Senate;" nor did he know how they had transpired.[2] Nearly a century later, Alvise Contarini has recorded in a MS. diary,[3] that on the

their frequent publication in violation of the law;

[1] These two last anecdotes are recorded by Mons. Armand Baschet, in his instructive and amusing work, entitled, "Les Princes de l'Europe au XVI^e Siècle." (p. 50, 51). He further gives a list of the Venetian reports in the Bodleian, which he extracted from a letter addressed to the Inquisition of State, by the Secretary Lionello, and dated London, 26th Aug. 1616. Lionello, in transmitting this list, expresses his surprise that such important State Papers should be allowed to circulate. The first is the report of Giovanni Michiel. These reports were also mentioned by Busino, the chaplain to the Ambassador Contarini, in his Anglipodrida in 1618. A MS. never published, but noticed in the Quarterly Review, vol. cii., p. 398. Busino says these Reports formed one folio volume.

[2] Giustinian, vol. i., p. xii.

[3] The diary extends from the 5th August 1713 to 24th August 1715. On the 1st of these days the writer, having attained the age of 25 years, took his seat as "Sage of the Orders," and heard the close of the "*report*" made by the Cavalier and Procurator, Lorenzo Tiepolo, of his

5th August 1713, he heard the Ambassador Tiepolo complain that in Rome MS. reports were sold in great abundance, and without the least attempt at concealment, and he entreats the Senate to prevent an irregularity which must have the ill effect of either sealing their envoys' lips or of divulging to the public what ought to be kept secret. This was probably the last time any attempt was made to draw the attention of the Executive to this standing grievance.

Account of several of these publications.

Nor was it long before specimens of the reports were seen in print also. The earliest publication of "*Relazioni*" appeared at Cologne in 1589;[1] it contained several reports of Venetian ambassadors, which, though very incorrectly given, were much admired, and in the course of ten years the work went through several editions. In the next century it was followed by the letters of Bulifon, by the "Tesori della corte di Roma," and by many similar works, which all contained Venetian reports.

The first English translation of a Venetian *report* (that of Rome by Angelo Correr) was published in London by John Bultell in the year 1668.

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three embassies to France, Vienna, and Rome. The words he quotes illustrate so strongly the use which these reports were designed to serve, and the importance which was attached to them, that I venture to transcribe the passage:—"Che le RELATIONI dei Ambasciatori sono state inventate per "delineare come in ritratto; l'indole, l'inclinatione, e la forza, e le "aderenze di quei Prencipi dove hanno fatto il sogiorno, a regola per il "Senato a poter prevalersi di quelle potenze, ad utile e gloria per la "Republica, e, che per dire il suo vero termene, servono a scoprire le "piaghe della medesima; ma che in Roma sono publicamente vendute a "quei che fanno raccolta di manuscritti vendendosi anche quelle dei "ultimi tempi. Che questo sarà causa d'uno dei due mali; o che "l'ambasciator non scriverà più con la solita permessa libertà, o che "scrivendo, continueranno ad esser scoperte agli Esteri quelle cose che "non sarebbe bene fossero publicate; onde il Senato informato d'un "tal disordine, potrà con maturo riflesso pensare, se stima necessario a "qualche espediente che possa essere avantagioso."

This MS. was purchased by me some years ago out of the Tiepolo collection.

[1] Cicogna, Saggio di Bibliografia Veneziana, p. 168.

In more modern times many single reports have been published. In England, for instance, a few copies of the report of the court of Edward VI. were privately printed in 1804, at the expense of George, Earl of Macartney, in quarto.[1] In 1827 Sir Henry Ellis published a translated abridgement of the report of England, A.D. 1559, by Giovanni Michiel.[2] In 1847, the late John Holmes, F.S.A., of the British Museum, furnished a most valuable account of Venetian MS. reports existing in England, as an introduction to the report of Andrea Trevisan (1498), so admirably edited and translated for the Camden Society by Miss Sneyd.

Other single reports have also appeared elsewhere, especially at Venice, where of late years the custom has prevailed of printing some curious old document connected with the ancient glories of the Republic, and presenting it as a marriage gift. Collections also have been made of reports both by private societies and by official authority. In 1838 Signor Tommaseo published two volumes of Venetian reports in Paris, under the auspices of the French minister for public instruction; and in the following year at Florence Signor Eugenio Albèri published the *first* volume of the *fifteen* now in being, entitled, "Relazioni degli Ambas- "ciatori Veneti al Senato, raccolte, annotate ed edite da "Eugenio Albèri, a spese di una società."

Despatches also got abroad.

In like manner, though with less frequency, the copies of the despatches of Venetian ambassadors found their way to the public. The first historian with whom we are acquainted, who avowedly made use of similar documents, was Thomas Carte. At the commencement of the last century he consulted at Paris, in the Royal Library, the London letter books of Alvise Vallaresso, and to this day they are still accessible to the public, in the very same place. Our countrymen were among the first to perceive the value of original documents, and Rymer is especially

Carte the first English historian who made use of them.

Rymer praised by the last Venetian historiographer for his use of original documents.

[1] Preface to Report translated by Miss Sneyd, p. ix. (London, 1847).

[2] Letters, Second Series, vol. ii., p. 218.

praised by Francesco Donà, the last historiographer of the Republic, for having made diplomatic records subservient to history.

Sir H. Ellis's statement that no list of English diplomatists to any foreign court has been made out.

A modern historian, who appreciates Venetian diplomatic remains as fully as any of his predecessors, Sir Henry Ellis, remarks in his interesting collection of original letters published in 1846, that "No complete list of the ambassadors "sent from England to any of the powers of Europe, greater "or smaller, is anywhere to be found at present."[1]

Possibility of supplying defect with respect to Venice.

I felt convinced that the records at the "Frari," together with the diaries of Marin Sanuto, and other MSS. to be found in St. Mark's library, would enable me to supply the deficiency with regard to the Republic of Venice. Nor was I mistaken. I have given in a preliminary table the entire series of diplomatic agents accredited to the Signory by England, Scotland, or Great Britain, together with a reference to the authorities by which each link of the chain is established. These authorities are very various. To mention some of them may be interesting, as it will supply an example to illustrate the use of the various files and registers, whose titles have previously been briefly enumerated.

List of authorities from which the information has been obtained and mode of using them.

I. The volumes entitled "*Commemoriali*," which are not mentioned in the report made by Andrea Morosini in 1602,[2] although by the Negri Index we know that they were kept in the bookcase No. VI., shelves 1 and 2. They extend from the year 1295 to 1787. They contain, together with the variety of matter already mentioned, statements made by foreign ambassadors, previously to the separate registration of them in the "Esposizioni Principi," which commences in 1541.

II. The "Esposizioni Principi," a series which was begun

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[1] Original Letters, Third Series, Vol. IV., p. 206.

[2] Report on the Secreta, made by Andrea Morosini in 1602, apparently to the College, and addressed to the Doge. It is published by the Chevalier Alfred Reumont in his work "Della Diplomazia Italiana," and has already been referred to in Note, p. xxxii.

as above-mentioned for the purpose of registering the statements made to the College by the diplomatic agents of foreign potentates; but besides their more immediate subject matter, the "*files*" from which the *Registers* were compiled frequently contain original credentials, and a great variety of miscellaneous documents, many of which relate to British subjects.

III. The unregistered "Patti;" which are of various kinds, and comprise, besides treaties, letters from crowned heads and prime ministers.

IV. Two portfolios, containing upwards of 200 original letters from British Sovereigns and Princes addressed to the Republic.

V. The despatches of Venetian ambassadors.

VI. The communications made by the Council of Ten to the Senate and College, which fill 32 bulky folios without any index, and embrace a period of 205 years, from 1582 to 1787. They contain matters which required momentary concealment, and subsequently were allowed that limited publicity which was given to a certain portion of that council's state papers.

VII. The books of ceremonies of the Ducal Palace and of St. Mark's Church, which, under a restricted title, contain much that is matter for history, and by recording the honours paid to persons of distinction, often give information respecting them, to be found nowhere else. Thus, the last letter in our own State Paper office of Edward Harvel,[1] ambassador to the Signory from Edward VI., is dated March 20th, 1547; nor is anything more known of him, till two years later we find a minute account of the public funeral decreed to him by the Venetian Senate. It is a curious fact, recorded in the same volumes, that in the year 1635, when the same honour was intended for Viscountess Fielding, who died ambassadress at Venice, her husband was obliged

[1] Calendar of State Papers (Foreign Series), 1547–1553. Edited by William B. Turnbull, Esq., p. 17.

by the Government at home to decline it, although the deceased was a Roman Catholic, because the "ceremonies proposed were contrary to the usages of the Anglican religion."

The first volume of the book of *Ceremonies of the Ducal Palace*, besides other matters indicated by its title, registers the presents made by the Republic, even to ambassadors, of whose negotiations, from their apparent insignificance, no note is taken in the journals of the Ten, the College, or the Senate; yet even thus, curious minute fragments of history are to be found. By an entry in this volume, it appears that in August, 1598, Lord Sanquhar, who is styled the Baron of "S. Chierio," presented himself as ambassador from James VI. of Scotland. The real object of his journey to Italy, Lord Sanquhar avowed subsequently to the Venetian secretary in London, was to obtain from Clement VIII., then at Ferrara, his support for the Scotch monarch's claim to the throne of England; while James himself, having obtained the object of his desires, went out of his way to talk to the same secretary of Lord Sanquhar's mission, and to represent him as accredited solely to Hungary.

VIII. The journals of the Senate ("Secreta Deliberazioni,") whose accurate entries will be found most useful in correcting the coloured and unfaithful statements of foreign envoys who quote from memory, or misrepresent by design.

IX. The common registers of the Council of Ten.

X. The Diary of Marin Sanuto, that is to say the copy kept in St. Mark's library.

It is obvious that if in calendaring these various documents, the notices relating to British envoys had merely been extracted and inserted in their proper place, the student who desired to make out a list of our ambassadors at Venice must encounter an amount of trouble inferior only to that of researches among the original documents. To the list of ambassadors I have added one of the English consular agents at Venice, as likewise of the Venetian diplomatists and

Lists of diplomatists on both side also of captains of Flanders galleys, promised in preliminary tables.

consuls in London, as far as I have been able to discover them, and of the captains of the Flanders galleys, who in early times were far more efficient than the agents of diplomacy in maintaining the connection between the countries.

Use of such lists.

Such lists will probably be found useful to future antiquaries in explaining and arranging many a fragment of documentary evidence which may hereafter be discovered in ancient records; and will, I trust, prove a not unacceptable contribution to the yet unwritten history of English diplomacy. The subject is one which it is advantageous to consider as a whole; nor can it fail to assist the historical student, to be enabled to comprehend in a single survey the rise and progress of internuncial relations between the two countries. While the present volume was going through the press, an incident occurred which illustrates the bearing of these lists on inquiries with which they have no obvious connection. Sir Charles Eastlake obligingly informed me that he had purchased for the National Gallery, from the Manfrini collection, a small portrait by an unknown painter of the Van Eyck school. It represented a man of about the age of 35, who holds in his hands a letter addressed to "Marco Barbarigo, son of the late Francesco, Procurator of St. Mark, London." Marco Barbarigo was born in 1414, and lost his father in 1448. By reference to the list it is shown that he was consul in London in 1449, and at that time the elections for the most part were annual.[1] By thus fixing the date of the picture, the number of Van Eyck's pupils to whom the work can be assigned is much diminished, and a material help is obtained for ascertaining the authorship.

Instance of this use.

[1] Subsequent entries in the volume entitled "Senato Mar," make it almost certain that the rule of annual election was observed at this time, though I am unable to name a successor till 1456. (See preliminary tables, p. cxxviii.) An entry in the Commemoriale, No. 20, proves that Flemish pictures on panel were much esteemed in Venice, and were called "Ponentini," a name generally applied to all the productions and the workmen of the West. It records a bequest by Cardinal Grimani of 14 such pictures to the State.

Rise of diplomacy.

In England and Venice, as everywhere else, we find that the system of diplomatic and consular agency was gradually developed to meet the requirements of advancing civilization. In the first instance messengers were sent only when there was something special to say. The consideration of the two parties for each other was shown by the ceremonial with which the messengers were received; and the minute accounts of these receptions with which the diplomatic archives abound, are not the effusions of gratified vanity, but rather the narratives of facts of political significance. As times and fashions change, it is interesting to observe the alterations of the ceremonial. In Venice the ambassador's reception presented the same grave solemn pageant from the first to the last. The travelled reader cannot have forgotten the Sala del Collegio with its gorgeous ceiling, and its walls glowing with the richest colours of the Venetian school. There, in seats arranged like the stalls of a choir, with the Doge's throne in the midst, sat the Signory, dressed in the same picturesque robes which the Venetian painters have made so familiar to us; and there the ambassador, after the verification of his credentials and other matters of form, was received by the College standing, and placed in the seat of honour at the Doge's right hand.

Early reception of ambassadors.

Reception of an English Lady on business by the College.

On one occasion, and I believe on only one,—it is hoped the reader will pardon the digression,—a countrywoman of our own was admitted by the College to an interview on business. On the evening of the 21st April, 1622, the Countess of Arundel, who was residing in the Venetian territory to superintend the education of her sons at the University of Padua, was stopped on her way from her Villa at Dolo to Venice by a special messenger from Sir Henry Wotton, the English ambassador, who warned her not to proceed, for on that very morning had been found suspended between the columns in the Piazzetta the body of the noble Foscarini, who had been executed in the night for high treason; and it was confidently said that he had found facilities for carrying on his intrigues in Lady Arundel's drawing room in Casa Mocenigo —the very same since tenanted by Lady Mary Wortley Mon-

tagu and by Lord Byron. The spirited lady, on receiving this message, desired her servants to redouble their speed. She went straight to Sir Henry's residence, though the night was far advanced, and could with difficulty be persuaded to defer her demand for an audience of the Signory till the morning. The next day she was introduced to the college by the ambassador, and placed in his seat of honour by the Doge's side. Wotton on her behalf gave the fullest and most complete denial to every particle of the charge. She had not even seen the deceased since her last return to Italy. The Doge made the amplest apologies and explanations to the lady herself, and promised also to transmit them to her husband, the Earl Marshal, through the Venetian ambassador in London; and subsequently the Senate voted 100 ducats to be spent in confections and wax, the usual present of ceremony to persons of exalted rank, which were to be offered to her on the part of the Signory.[1]

Rules of the Signory respecting their ambassadors.

The Republic from a very early date took the most minute precautions to secure the honesty and independence of its envoys, and even their popularity. A Venetian ambassador was forbidden by law to accept the smallest present from the sovereign to whom he was accredited;[2] he was not

[1] See also MS. in the British Museum, quoted by Mr. Tierney, in his History of Arundel.

[2] Presents were always offered according to the usage of the times, and were accepted by the ambassadors of Venice, but by them were immediately consigned to the Signory on their return. Sometimes, however, the permission to keep them was given. Thus in December 1523, when the ambassador Surian requested leave to retain 500 gold crowns which had been given him by Henry VIII., the request was granted on the ground that the ambassador had incurred a great deal of expense in his journeys across the Channel with the King, and the cardinal, &c. The decree against receiving presents is dated September 23, 1257. The following is an extract from the Register, entitled "FRACTUS" p. 59 or 89 (the paging is double): "Item teneantur eodem sacramento dare et "consignare in redditu suo omnia dona et omnes gratias q̃ sibi vel "aliis pro eis facte fuerint in ipsis ambaxariis et legacionibus, excepto "p̃sentes victualias q̃ commederint in ipsis ambaxariis et legacionibus, "et excepto quod possint rettinere de dictis victulibus (*sic*) tantum quod "valeat solidos xl."

allowed to take his wife (though in later times this rule seems to have been occasionally infringed), and he was positively ordered to take a cook. A decree of the Grand Council, 22nd December 1268, enjoins "et si erit tantum unus, habeat unum cocum." The Venetian ambassador was always a patrician; the secretary must by law be of the upper plebeian class or order of secretaries.

First ambassador from England and his message.

The English court was fettered by no such rules, nor even by any established custom, limiting the class or condition or even the country of the envoy. The first ambassador, as far as I can ascertain, sent by any English sovereign to the Republic of Venice, was the Friar Richard, Bishop of Bisaccia, in the kingdom of Naples, the subject and chaplain of King Robert. He was accredited in 1360 by Edward III. to Doge Gradenigo, to announce officially the challenge sent by that King to Philip de Valois, and his offer to prove himself the "Lord's anointed" by braving ravenous lions, in the company of his antagonist; or (a much safer ordeal) by touching for the evil. The Bishop also asked for the loan of 40 galleys, and offered on the part of his master to receive one or two of the Doge's sons for education at the English Court.

Last English ambassador and his last official communication.

The last English envoy at Venice was Sir Richard Worsley, and the last official intelligence he communicated to the College was the naval victory off Cape St. Vincent. But this gleam of light in the horizon was too distant to raise the courage of the doomed Republic. On the 12th of May, 1797, Worsley received his passports, not from the Signory, but from the French Secretary of Legation, Villetard.

Venetian ambassador to England.

Zuan da Leze, who was sent to the Court of Edward II. in the year 1319, to settle some disputes arising out of an act of piracy, may be considered as the first of the Republic's ambassadors to this country, inasmuch as he was the first who arrived in England with the title and functions of ambassador only; but three years previously, in 1316, Gabriel Dandolo, the captain of the Flanders galleys, had

been furnished with credentials, and authorized to combine the duties of diplomatist and of admiral.

First appointment of resident agents.

From this time ambassadors were accredited to England as occasion arose. In February, 1496, Sanuto records that the Senate "considering that the road to England was very long and very dangerous," appointed two merchants then resident in London for their own affairs, Contarini and Vallaresso, to present themselves to the King "as sub-ambassadors," for the purpose of including him in the "Holy League" then negotiating against France. Subsequently, in June, 1497, the Signory accredited Andrea Trevisano to Henry VII., that he might cement the new alliance; and soon the succession of diplomatic agents became so regular that few intervals occurred in which the Republic was left without a representative. But the narrations of their respective receptions, the details of their missions, and summaries of their despatches, are to be found chiefly in Sanuto's diaries.

By degrees the series becomes continuous.

In the first volume of the "Ambassadorial Statements,' ('Esposizioni Principi," p. 9,) there is a note written apparently in January, 1591, to explain the irregularity with which ambassadors had been sent to England, since the latter part of Henry VIII.'s reign. It is eminently curious as illustrating the system of Venice, and the position of England during the state of transition from the ancient to the reformed faith. In 1534 the wary Republic did not choose any longer to keep an ambassador at the court of a Sovereign who had quarrelled with the Holy See; and still less to offend so irritable and powerful a prince as Henry VIII. Carlo Capello was instructed to return to Venice on "urgent private business," leaving his secretary behind him to transact the affairs of the embassy. In 1541, a motion was made in the Senate to send an ambassador as usual; but, "for reasons good," it was negatived. In 1546, Henry, who had at intervals communicated with the Signory through his own ambassador at Venice or the Venetian secretary in London, insisted on being honoured with an em-

Interrupted by Henry VIII.'s schism.

bassy; but a reply to the demand was rendered unnecessary by the King's death. A series of ambassadors, three in all, were then sent to Edward VI. On Mary's accession all scruples as to orthodoxy were removed, but the ambassador Soranzo made himself so obnoxious to Charles V. by his intrigues against the marriage of Philip with the Queen, that he was recalled. His successor, Michiel, remained till 1557, when the Signory resolved to retrench the expense of an ambassador in England, notwithstanding Mary's orthodoxy. It was thought sufficient to have one resident envoy at the Court of Philip, King both of Spain and of England, and the Venetian Board of Trade made arrangements for filling up the places of ambassador and secretary by the consul.

Restored in reign of Edward VI.

and of Mary.

On the 30th May 1559 it was moved in the Senate to appoint an ambassador to Queen Elizabeth, but an amendment was carried to delay the appointment "till it was seen "how matters went in that kingdom, and for other reasons "well known to the Senate." Again, in 1576, the secret register tells us the proposal to send an ambassador was renewed and was negatived.

No diplomatic agents sent to Elizabeth.

It is a proof how much the Signory was respected, and how painfully Elizabeth felt her insulated position, that, haughty and imperious as she was, she spared no pains to obtain this mark of consideration from the Republic. Throughout her reign every Venetian noble who arrives in the country is treated with the distinction due to an ambassador, and he is more or less directly charged with a message to the Signory to invite a renewal of diplomatic intercourse. A very interesting letter, which will be given in its place, was written at the close of 1575 by three young patricians, especially charged by Elizabeth with the task of mediation. In 1578 she makes the same overture through the noble Bon, a wholesale dealer in currants and sack, who chanced to be in London on business. At different times (each of which is recorded in the above-mentioned note), almost every Venetian ambassador at foreign courts was assailed by the English

Her anxiety to renew diplomatic relations with the Signory.

diplomatic agents on the subject, but in vain. Not even a hint that the currant duties, that everlasting bone of contention between the two states, shall be reconsidered, produces any effect. Human wisdom after all often chooses the worst of two evils, and excess of caution only leads to danger. Venice by her long delay to acknowledge any but an orthodox sovereign in England, had attached an importance and a difficulty to the recognition which greater promptitude would have avoided. Successive Popes interfered in the matter. Gregory XIII. positively insists so pious a Republic cannot countenance a "*sorry jade*" (*una trista*), who, he says, is the source of all the mischiefs in the Netherlands and the sole cause of the Catholic King's defeat. But at last circumstances are too strong for piety and prudence, and English corsairs effect what English courtesy failed to accomplish. After 44 years of fruitless civility and solicitation on the part of Elizabeth, the Senate, alarmed by several acts of piracy, decide by 96 ayes against 44 noes and 58 neutral votes, on sending the Secretary Scaramelli to England. They expressly stipulate that the plundered merchants, *not the State*, are to defray the cost of the mission, and the envoy is entrusted with no other commission than to complain of the damage done to the Signory's trade, and to ask redress. He arrives just six weeks before Elizabeth's death in 1603, and obtains a first and last interview with the aged Queen.

Arrival of a secretary six weeks before her death.

Rise of the consular system.

Nature of the consul's office in the first instance.

The consular system was called into being by the requirements of commerce, and in early times it would seem that the consul was a magistrate elected by the merchants to watch over their interests at a foreign port, and to govern the little colony resident in a foreign land, rather than what he afterwards became, an officer appointed by the State to represent the commercial interests of its subjects at the seat of a foreign government. He was paid by fees fixed by the merchants themselves, and in England his nomination was vested in the Trinity House. It is a proof how little of the early trade with the republic was carried on by English vessels, that for a long time there is no mention of a resident English consul at Venice. I am unable to name any one

previously to the year 1620, although a commission of inquiry reported to the Senate in 1760 that the British consulate had been recognised by the Signory ever since the commencement of the 17th century. After the departure of Killigrew in 1652, Oliver Cromwell wrote to urge the reception, as English consul, of one Hobson, who is styled by Evelyn "a worthy merchant, at whose house he had eaten excellent potted venison." The recommendation was backed by the Venetian Board of Trade, who felt the absence of such an officer as an inconvenience, and after many difficulties, Hobson was acknowledged; yet from 1653 to 1669 the "*Esposizioni Principi*" contain no trace of business transacted with English agents of any description; although during that interval letters were written to the Republic by Speaker Lenthall, as also by Oliver Cromwell and by his son, the originals of which are still existing at the "Frari." The interests of our trade seem to have been advocated with the Senate, by our diplomatists exclusively. Nor was an audience ever vouchsafed by the College to an English consul till 1670, when George Hailes, who then filled that post, was admitted to announce the arrival of Lord Fauconberg as Ambassador Extraordinary from Charles II.

Commencement of English consulates at Venice.

Disputes on the subject.

It was on the occasion of the petition of the above-mentioned Hobson to act as consul, that the attention of the Signory seems to have been drawn for the first time to the English consulate. The real cause of their hesitation in the matter was no doubt their unwillingness to acknowledge the Protector's government; and when they found it expedient to waive their scruples on this point, and to send the Secretary Paulucci to England, the recognition of the English consul had lost all its political interest and became a mere question of commercial convenience. On the Restoration, Cromwell's patronage of course proved fatal to his client. The frequently recurring changes in the constitution of church and state in England, gave infinite trouble to the cautious Signory, who only wished to remain on good terms with good customers, without being supposed to express any opinion on their civil or ecclesiastical polity. On the revolution

Difficulties respecting the consulate in consequence of the revolution.

in 1688, they were perplexed by another Hobson, who was a Romanist and a Jacobite, and had a public Te deum sung at Sta. Maria Formosa for the birth of James Prince of Wales. The new Sovereign quickly sent out as a substitute Hugh Broughton, who was acknowledged by the Signory, though his master was still styled by them Prince of Orange. By this person the Signory was soon entangled in a dispute, which, though it involved some difficult points of international law, was chiefly complicated and inflamed by religious differences. The Abbé Leith, who has before been mentioned as librarian of St. Mark's, had died intestate; and Broughton, as consul, claimed the keys of his effects. But was the deceased Abbé a naturalized subject of the republic? Had he the power, if he had the will, to change his allegiance? How did his proscription in England affect the question? As a matter of fact, was he proscribed? And above all, what at that time were the limits of consular jurisdiction? These are the questions which were hotly debated between the Signory and the Earl of Nottingham, William's secretary of state. The one took part with the Presbyterian heir-at-law in Scotland, the other with certain Roman Catholic claimants in Venice; and neither as to the facts nor the law of the case, was it possible to agree.

Succession of Consuls.

The notices of the English consuls in the tranquil times which followed, relate only to the pretensions of these personages to be received as diplomatic agents in the occasional absence of the ambassador, and to receive the honours reserved for diplomacy.[1] At all times the

[1] Among the many disputes occasioned by consular pretensions, one of the most extraordinary is the following. In 1640, Henry Hyde (one of two brothers hereafter to be mentioned of Lord Clarendon,) being consul in the Morea, wrote to Hobson at Venice, to order for him a seal, to be engraved with the Royal Arms party per pale with his own. This piece of consular arrogance so irritated Secretary Talbot, that he urged the Senate, in defiance of sense and justice, to imprison Hobson and the engraver for having executed the commission, adding that "per causa "simile ne siano stati decapitati."

consul derived the best part of his official gains from the advantages which his situation afforded him for trade; and in the last century of the Republic's existence, the English consuls were much in the habit of exchanging the traffic in woollens and currants for a more lucrative, though not, it is to be feared, more honest trade in the fine arts. Many stories are told, especially by Giacomo della Lena, in his MS. biography of English "virtuosi"[1] of the unscrupulous dexterity with which some of them contrived to procure pictures of great value for foreign sovereigns—among whom is mentioned the Pope Pius VI.—by substituting in churches and galleries cleverly forged copies for the original masterpieces. But as it is impossible, if the statements are true, to acquit these illustrious personages of concurrence in the fraud, we may hope that the accusation is one of the many fictions which from time to time have been invented to account for the existence of pictures professedly the same in rival collections.

Venetian consuls in England.

The precise date of the establishment of Venetian consuls in England is uncertain. Early in the 14th century Zuan da Leze on his way to Edward II. was instructed to pass through Flanders, and to use his best endeavours "quod "nostri fideles possint habere consulem, qui jus faciat inter "nostros de questionibus quæ orirentur inter nostros;" but I can discover no trace of any Venetian consul in England until the following century. This wording of the ambassador's commission confirms the view we have taken of the consul's duties. So also does the regulation that he should be assisted, and, of course to a certain extent, controlled in the discharge of his office by a committee of twelve of the resident Venetian merchants, an arrangement which could only refer to the internal government of the factory, and not to his intercourse with the English government.

The Venetian consuls in London until the year 1570 were

[1] "Sopra asportazioni di quadri da Venezia," 1806, MS. in St. Mark's library.

of necessity patricians, although at the out-ports we find two aliens who were permitted to act in that capacity in the 15th century; and, at least down to 1533, it seems that they were elected for the most part annually on the spot by their fellow merchants and countrymen, subject probably to confirmation by the Senate. The names of these commercial agents were doubtless registered amongst the acts of the overseers of the "*Cotimo di Londra;*" an office in Venice connected with the Board of Trade, and especially charged with the control of the *London Consulate;* but as yet I have been unable to discover the complete series. We know, however, that after the war with Candia in the 17th century, consuls were finally withdrawn from London.

Wholly discontinued after the war with Candia.

Declension of the trade inferred from the insignificance to which the consulship in London had sunk.

The strongest proof that the trade with England was declining is the insignificance to which the consulship in London was reduced. In the year 1588 the Signory wrote to the ambassador at Paris to inquire if there was any Venetian consul in London, and by what authority he acted. To this the ambassador replied that a self-constituted official, a certain Giovanni da Riviera, a native of Corfu, took upon himself the functions of consul, and had repeatedly applied to the embassy at Paris to adjust some differences between the Queen and the Signory on "*a matter of importance.*"

The last mention of consuls connected with the currant trade.

Importance of that trade.

This "matter of importance" related to currants. Long previously and long subsequently to the date of this letter the English sovereigns, who naturally liked to gratify their favourites in the way that seemed least costly to themselves, were in the habit of granting monopolies, one of which was that of currants, much to the detriment of trade and the discontent of their subjects; but if the remonstrances of the Commons and a sense of their own true interests had no effect, the complaints of Venetian ambassador or consul were not likely to prevail. For years the currant duty remained a standing grievance, and in 1662, when the diplomatic relations of the two countries were re-established, the dispute seems to have been farther from

adjustment than ever, for the ambassador Contarini could find no better topic of consolation than to assure the Signory that, "with regard to the utter *prohibition* of currants, that "cannot take place without discontenting the entire popu- "lation of England, which consumes a greater amount of "this fruit than all the rest of the world; being so accus- "tomed to the luxury, and loving it so dearly, that indivi- "duals have been found, who, from lack of money to pur- "chase it on certain high days and holy days when it is the "customary fare, are said to have hanged themselves."

Account of the Flanders galleys. They form the first link of connection between the two countries.

But though the trade with Venice was not a matter of life and death, in the literal sense of the ambassador's letter, there can be no question that commerce formed the most important link of connection between the two countries. Previously to the days of ambassadors and consuls, and long subsequently, the chief intercourse between them was maintained by a small fleet of trading vessels called the "Flanders galleys;" and so powerful was the influence which these galleys exercised in developing English trade and manufactures, that I venture to enter into their history with some minuteness. This is the more necessary, because the many regulations and notices respecting them, which are to be found in the archives, though very interesting as illustrating the history of commerce generally, are not so obviously and directly connected with this country as to warrant their admission into the body of the present work, and in fact they will be inserted only where the connection is apparent or the name of England occurs.

The alliance between Baldwin, Count of Flanders, and Venice, which began in conquest (A.D. 1202), was more beneficially perpetuated by trade. In the first instance the traffic was carried on by land, though there is evidence that even in the 13th century shipping was occasionally employed. The Flanders galleys, under the immediate auspices of the State, appear to have made their first voyage in 1317; and though they superseded the inland traffic to a consider-

Their first voyage.

able extent, the latter was never wholly abandoned; but to prevent its competing with the shipping interest, goods sent over land from Venice to any port, and vice versâ, *whilst the Flanders galleys were on the voyage*, or even "*on the berth*," were compelled to pay a freight or fine for their advantage, the land carriage being always resumed without restrictions whenever the maritime communication chanced to be suspended.

Various rules and regulations respecting the galleys, their captains, their officers, and crews.

The regulations under which these early trading adventures were carried on are very peculiar. When the markets at home seemed favorable to an export trade, the government proposed to the Senate to vote a certain number of galleys for some given voyage. The points of destination were various,—and of these Flanders was only one. When the motion was carried, the galleys were put up to auction. The prices at which they were knocked down are known: we find by an entry in the "Misti Senato" that in the year 1347 three galleys averaged the price of about 67 lire each, and in the year 1375 five galleys averaged a little more than 81 lire—sums which are much larger than the student would suppose; for the lire mentioned are the lire *grosse*, and these have been ascertained to be each worth 12 golden ducats or sequins. The captain or commodore was *elected* by the Grand Council, but he was *paid* by the "masters, patroni, or merchants," to whom the vessels were knocked down at the auction; and in the lists of these captains and merchants are to be found the noblest names of the Republic.

In 1517, the pay of the Commodore Andrea Priuli was 600 golden ducats for the voyage; but even in the 14th and 15th centuries, when the salary fell far short of that sum, the captain was expected to keep three servants, and to board the naval officer or sailing master who was engaged to work his ship. As time went on the regulations became more minute. A notary public, two fifers, and two trumpeters, formed an indispensable part of the expedition, and to these a certain number of physicians, functionaries of more obvious utility,

were added as early as the year 1320.[1] There were also minute regulations with respect to pilots, scribes, and craftsmen of various specified denominations, whom the masters were obliged to engage. Each vessel was also ordered to take on board 30 archers for its defence, and these were to be commanded by four young patricians, who were to be sent out, in order, says the decree, that the noble youth of Venice may see the world, be inured betimes to toil and peril, and learn to expose their lives for their native land. The consideration in which they were held is proved by the amount of pay, which was not less than 70 ducats each, and the regulation that they were to board at the upper table.

It was expressly ordained, moreover, that (with certain not very important exceptions, which are noted from time to time), the captain should have no share whatever in the cargo; and in order to prevent the collision of interests and inclinations between the merchant masters and a captain appointed by the State, it was enacted that the captain should consult the merchant passengers, and the committee of Venetian merchants resident at Bruges, as to the ports to be entered and the course to be pursued. But the Senate never chose to give up its supreme control, and we may infer that the spirit of gain was found an unsafe guide for the movements of the fleet, as the Senate continued to give its own special directions respecting each voyage. On one occasion, for instance, it prescribes what steps the admiral shall take to ascertain whether it is safe to enter Malaga and Almeria, in consequence of the wars with the Moors, and what ports in Flanders are rendered insecure by the disputes between the municipal governments and the Duke Maximilian. The final decision on these points is by special decree reserved to the captain; and it is further provided, that if that decision be contrary to the commercial interests of the masters, he shall be protected

[1] Misti Senato, vol. v. p. 182, Magr Consº, A.D. 1322, June 2.

against all actions for damages which may be instituted by them in consequence.

The oarsmen, 180 in number on board each galley, were chiefly Sclavonians from the Venetian possessions, a rude and simple, but withal a hardy and dauntless race. They established in England a confraternity similar to that which they possessed in Venice, for the purpose of ministering to each other such temporal and spiritual aid as might be needed, and especially the last rites and consolations of religion. They had their special place of sepulture in the neighbourhood of Southampton; and at this day in the pavement of the north aisle of North Stoneham Church, four miles from that port, is to be read an inscription, which has much puzzled English antiquaries:[1]

Around the representation of a spread eagle is carved in Lombardic characters,

"SEPULTURA DE LA SCHOLA DE SCLAVONI, ANO DNI MCCCCLXXXXI."

Their course.

The Flanders galleys formed the most remarkable trading fleet of the Republic because their ultimate destination was so remote, that the adventure involved an intermediate trade with the principal ports of Southern and Western Europe. The track of the Flanders galleys seems, with little variation, to have taken the following course:—In the first place they made for Capo d'Istria, then passed on to Corfu, Otranto, Syracuse, Messina, Naples, Majorca, the principal ports of Spain and Marocco, and then Lisbon. On reaching our coasts they generally repaired to Camber before Rye, or the Downs, where they parted company; those destined for England proceeded to Sandwich, Southampton, St. Catherine's Point, or London, creating in our English marts as great a sensation as ever did the arrival of the Indian fleet at Calcutta some sixty years ago, while their consorts continued their voyage to Sluys, Middleburg, or Antwerp. On the homeward voyage they reassembled either at Sandwich or

Trade with certain English ports and with Flanders.

[1] See Notes & Queries, Second Series, vol. ix., p. 501.

Southampton. London was almost deserted by them in the latter half of the fifteenth century.

Imports from the Mediterranean and the East.

The object of the Flanders fleet was in the first instance to convey to the West the produce and manufactures of Venice, and of the inland and eastern marts with which she traded, and more especially the wares and produce of Persia and India. These were collected at Trebizond, Constantinople, Damascus, Aleppo, Alexandria, Cairo, and other cities under the jurisdiction of the Soldans, whose subjects monopolised the carrying trade between the Carnatic and the Red Sea. Besides this the galleys also carried on an intermediate trade, buying cargoes at each port, of such objects as experience proved were marketable at subsequent stages of their progress. It was a trading voyage, which seems to have occupied the greater part of a twelvemonth. The minute details of the various articles of trade are very interesting, as throwing much light on the state of European commerce and civilization; they are too voluminous to be inserted here, but will be given in a preliminary table. At Messina the galleys loaded for the English market sugar and molasses, comfits, preserved fruits, large coral beads or buttons, Maltese cotton, yarn, and spun cotton, silk yarn, and saltpetre. The depôt of currants was at Patras, and the first mention of this important article of commerce is in the year 1317, on occasion of the first voyage of the Flanders galleys, but there is reason to believe that it was one of the earliest imports into this country, on the commencement of commercial intercourse with the Republic.

Glass and earthenware, though not included in the tariffs published by Dino and Paxi[1], were certainly sent to England from Venice, as early as the 14th century. We find in the

[1] The following are the titles of the works above mentioned :—"El Libro "di tucti i chostumi : cambi : monete : Pesi : misure : et usanze di Lectere "di cambi : et termini di decte Lectere che ne' Paesi si costuma, et in "diverse terre, per me

"FRANCESCO DE DINO

commemoriale, No. IX, p. 3, the registered transcript of a safe-conduct from Richard II. relating to their importation, and given on one of the last days of his unhappy reign; for the document is dated after his arrival in London from Flint Castle.[1] Thirteen days later, according to the accounts inserted by the order of Henry IV. in the rolls of Parliament, his abdication took place.

Sale of Bibles prohibited by the Inquisition.

Of an unexpected article of Venetian trade there is mention on at least one occasion. In December, 1524, at the port of Almazarron, some officers belonging to the Venetian galleys were arrested by the Holy Office for selling Bibles, with commentaries by the Rabbi Solomon Raschi, a writer of the twelfth century. The prisoners were conveyed to Murcia; nor could the ambassador, Gasparo Contarini, obtain any immediate redress from the Emperor, who assured him he would do everything to preserve the friendship of the Republic, but the Inquisitors had told him the delinquents had been arrested for selling books against the faith.

English exports.

The English exports to Bruges and Flanders are stated in a MS. of the thirteenth century, now in the Bibliotheque Imperiale, which was kindly communicated to me by M. L. de Mas Latrie, to be "laines, cuirs, plombs, estains, char- "bon de roche, fromage," all which produce, with the exception of coal, cheese, and lead, finds a place in the "manifests" of the Flanders galleys. The Flemings wove cloth for themselves, and required merely the raw material.

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" di Jacopo Kartolaio Fiorentino adi 10 di Dicembre 1481 in Firenze " appresso al munistero di Fuligno."

" Tariffa de Pexi e mesure del Prestantissimo miser Bartholomeo di " Paxi da Venetia stampada in Venetia per Albertin da Lisona Vercellese, " regnante l'Inclyto Principe Miser Leonardo Loredano, Anno Domini " 1503. A di 26 del mese de Luio."

[1] The execution is as follows:—" In cuius rei testimonium has literas " nostras fieri fecimus patentes per decem annos proxime futuros duraturas. " Teste me ipso apud Westm. XVII die Septembris anno regni nostri " vicesimo tercio :—

" per ipsum Regem."

But that English cloth found its way to Venice as early as 1265 is proved by an entry of the Grand Council, which regulates the duty on each piece of English "Stamford." The English cloth was at that time generally dyed abroad; but subsequently it was brought in great quantities, both died and undyed, to Venice, together with kerseys and other similar manufactures; and by Venetian merchants these products of English industry were distributed throughout the great fairs of Italy and the ports of the Mediterranean.

Vigilant supervision of the Senate.

The supervision of the Senate extended to the most minute details regarding the Flanders galleys, and was exercised with equal vigilance over all their officers and crews, from the highest to the lowest. In 1408 special decrees were passed to regulate and enforce the payment of the sailors' reckonings at the taverns, and we find by an entry in the "Misti Senato," of the date of 1402, that Lorenzo Contarini, the admiral, received an express permission to go on a pilgrimage from Sandwich to the shrine of St. Thomas of Canterbury, but not to sleep out of his flag-ship, and consequently without permission he could not even for a few hours absent himself from his post. A similar leave of absence granted to another member of the same family in 1429 was thought important enough to be mentioned in the index, which unfortunately is all that remains of the last seven volumes of the Misti Senato from 1422 to 1440; these volumes "disappeared" probably in 1797, and by their loss we are deprived, if we may judge by the index, of many interesting particulars relating to the trading fleets of Venice.

The admiral's commission and responsibility.

The commission of the captain of the Flanders galleys in 1517 begins by charging him in the name of Christ, and as he values Christ's favour to do his duty uprightly, and to do justice truly and righteously between the subjects of the Signory committed to his care. This was the usual form, but it probably meant much more than a pious exhortation, and, in fact, conferred those supreme powers which were conveyed by the vague vote of the Roman Senate, "pro-

"viderent consules ne quid detrimenti Respublica caperet," and without which the captain could hardly fulfil his responsible office. In those days the maxims of international law were not yet established. The people were turbulent and the governments weak. One act of imputed wrong was held to justify reprisals ad infinitum. Piracy was common, and not always distinguished from private adventure of a peaceful character. The captain of the galleys must not only be a warrior but a diplomatist. He must have the courage to defend the people intrusted to his charge, and the tact not to commit, any further than was inevitable, his mistress the Republic.

Turbulence of the time.

Piracy.

Late in the history of the Flanders galleys,—precisely on the eve of Bosworth Field,—there occurred a tragedy which brings into view a source of danger, the magnitude of which would scarcely have been appreciated by the modern historian. It is difficult at the present time to realize to the imagination the full operation of a Papal excommunication in the middle ages. Off Lisbon, on the 21st August 1485, the Flanders galleys, on their voyage to England under Bortolomeo Minio, were attacked by a corsair who is called "*the son of Columbus*," and amongst whose comrades was the discoverer *Christopher Columbus*. The pirate vessels were six in number, and bore the French flag. 130 Venetians were killed and 300 wounded, and an enormous booty was taken; a demand for restitution was made to Charles VII. But the deed was justified on the plea that the Republic was put under interdict by Sixtus IV.[1]

Quarrels at Southampton.

The first notices which we have of the Flanders galleys, at the commencement of their trade with this country record scenes of turbulence and bloodshed. In the year 1319 the

[1] The original commission and instructions given by the State to Bartolomeo Minio were preserved (although the galleys perished), and are now in my possession. The only known document of the kind, except one already quoted.

captain or "super cargo" of a Venetian merchant vessel who was instructed by his employer to sell his sugars in London, and buy wool at Boston for exportation to the Low Countries, was attacked off the "Wash" by English pirates, and lost his life in defence of his vessel. It was to obtain reparation for this outrage that the first Venetian Ambassador was sent to England; but in 1322, while the dispute was still pending, the Flanders galleys arrived at Southampton, and either with the intention of making reprisals, or, on some fresh provocation, began an affray which terminated in serious loss of life, and which is so recorded in our national annals,[1] as to show both the magnitude of the event, and the importance attached by the government of Edward II. to the Venetian trade.

Scenes similar in character occurred from time to time. In 1488 Malipiero, the captain of the galleys, complained that he had been attacked by the captains of three English vessels who claimed the salute, and that eighteen of the assailants and two Venetians had been killed.[2] The charge sounds grave; but the assailants had suffered most; and we may presume there were faults on both sides, for Courtenay, bishop of Winchester, who was sent down by the King to inquire into the matter, recommends that the affair should be compromised with what the Venetian despatch calls a "poto di vino." The bishop probably spoke French and used the term "pot de vin," in the sense of donative or deodand.

On another occasion Henry VII., whose chief merit as a ruler was a rigid enforcement of the law, executed summary justice on some highwaymen who had murdered certain Venetian travelling merchants, and hanged them at Southampton in sight of the Venetian fleet. In 1506 we have to calendar the particulars of a visit which Vincenzo Capello, the captain of the galleys, was invited to

Admiral Capello's visit to Henry VII.

[1] Rymer, ii., 546–593.

[2] Sanuto MS., Lives of the Doges, p. 310; and Malipiero Annals, Part 2, p. 624.

pay to Henry VII. The King treated him with the greatest familiarity, and, taking him into a small apartment of the palace at Richmond, showed him Catherine of Aragon, then widow of Prince Arthur, practising on the spinet with the Lady Maria Tudor, who at that time was 9 years of age. He offered to the admiral the honour of knighthood, which was declined, but Capello consented to quarter the lion of England on his heraldic shield; and he is recorded on his tomb at Sta. Maria Formosa as the man whom "Henry King of Britain delighted to honor."

Voyage of Flanders galleys suspended by the league of Cambrai.

It is a proof of the King's sagacity that he foresaw the storm gathering round the Republic which afterwards burst upon her in the notorious league of Cambrai. Henry assures the admiral of his own attachment to Venice, but warns him that all the other Princes of Europe were only watching their opportunity to ruin her. Venice at the beginning of the sixteenth century was so steadily advancing in dominion and power that the great continental sovereigns who aspired to rule in Italy feared she might prove a bulwark to their ambition. The Pope found her not less in the way of his plans of territorial extension, while the petty Italian States feared she might absorb them, and so make some advance to that unity which is now supposed to be the great object of desire to modern Italy. All agreed in plotting her ruin. In 1509 the conspiracy took effect, and for nine years, during which the republic was engaged in a struggle for existence, the Flanders galleys never appeared in Southampton Water. During this long interval it is natural to suppose that her place in English commerce must have been filled up to a certain extent by other nations, and her trade with England when she resumed it was probably less valuable than it had been. On the 22d May, 1532, the Flanders galleys set sail from Southampton never to return. After that date, the merchants of Venice, like Shakespeare's Antonio, sent their "rich argosies" at their own risk, and regulated their movements at their own pleasure.

Finally discontinued in 1532.

Even in the earliest days the Flanders galleys did not exclusively engross the maritime trade with England. Vessels belonging to private Venetian merchants were occasionally to be seen at other ports, as for instance Boston, Sandwich, and Margate; and a considerable number of Venetian merchants always resided in London. Italy was the instructress of Europe in commerce, as in all other branches of civilization; even to this day account-books are kept by the "Italian method," and the technical language of commerce is obviously derived from the Italian.

Great facilities for studying history of commerce in Venetian Archives.

In consequence of the interest taken by the government in the commercial transactions of its citizens, the Venetian archives present materials such as are to be found no where else for studying the history and antiquities of mediæval commerce. We may there find duly entered the rates of exchange from time to time, even in the fifteenth century, stating the number of silver pennies current for a ducat. The original protests of dishonored bills, the marks of the notaries, and the names of the parties concerned are thus all preserved. We may learn how the protest was made and registered on the "merchant's walk" in Lombard Street, and trace every link of the transaction as easily as we might now follow the progress of a ruined trader through the bankruptcy court.[1]

Early Venetian charts.

As the Venetians were among the earliest navigators, it is not surprising that they should possess some of the

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[1] The coinage of Europe in the 14th and 15th centuries is a very obscure and intricate subject. In the midst of the confusion the Venetian archives bring to light from time to time a few facts, such as that the lira grossa, as before stated, was worth 12 ducats; that in 1409 and 1415, according to our own Statutes, the Venetian "sesin" and "daottin," *alias* SOLDO, were called in England, not PENCE but HALFPENCE,—"Galley halfpence;" that in 1421 the Venetian ducat did not fetch more than 38 pence, and at this rate were the galley-oarsmen paid in London in that year. By the protested bills of exchange in the archives, it is proved that from 1453 to 1512 the exchange varied from *40d.* to *52d.* per ducat.

earliest specimens of hydrography. In the library of St. Mark are preserved ten coloured charts on vellum by Andrea Bianco. They bear the date of 1436, but are supposed by Vincenzio Formaleoni, who published an account of them in 1783,[1] to be copies of still more ancient hydrographical attempts. One of them, which gives the British Channel and the adjacent coasts, has been thought so interesting that a lithographic impression of the tracing, taken *by special permission* from the original, has been prepared for insertion in the present volume. By its help I have been enabled to identify "Camera" or "Portus Camera" with Camber before Rye and "Caput Doble" or "Dople" with the Downs, points which, I believe, had not as yet been settled by antiquaries, and which it is necessary to clear up in order to understand the account of the early trade with England.

Difficulty of defining what relates to any given country.

In dealing with such a prodigious mass of miscellaneous materials, it is not easy to select those which may be said with certainty to relate to any specified country. As civilization advances, certain members of the European family are so closely interconnected by community or antagonism of interests, that scarcely any event which materially affects the one can be uninteresting to the historian of the other. But it is obvious that to calendar every paper, which might in some way or the other be of use to the student of English history, would involve a responsibility of selection which no one could undertake, *where the mass of original materials is so prodigiously large*, and would, besides, swell the present work to a preposterous bulk. Moreover the literary men of other countries are engaged in similar researches; and in order that the republic of letters may derive from their aggregate labours the greatest possible advantage, it is desirable that each should devote

[1] Formaleoni's account is entitled, "Illustrazione di due carte antiche "della Biblioteca di S. Marco." See also "Le Sesperte antiche," by the learned and accomplished Count Francesco Miniscalchi Erizzo.

himself to the materials connected with his own country. I have, therefore, prescribed to myself the rule of calendaring every document in which the name of any one of the three kingdoms appears, or any of their subjects are mentioned, admitting none others, except perhaps in some rare case where the event mentioned or the matter discussed is instantly recognized as pertaining to English history (such, for instance, as would be the sailing of the Spanish armada), and excluding none, where Englishmen are concerned, however unimportant the incident recorded may appear. It is for others to decide what bearing the disinterment of a fact or the fixing of a date may have on existing controversies or future discoveries; and the student who is in search of the minute details of history may reasonably expect to be gratified in a work like the present. I can feel no doubt as to calendaring the letters of Queen Elizabeth in favour of the firm of Parvis & Co., with whom the well-known Paul Pindar was serving as an apprentice, or the documents which throw light on the career as currant merchants of the brothers Hyde, two elder brothers of the great Lord Chancellor, whom it has suited biographers, in the dearth of better information, to dispose of by saying they died young. It throws light on the history of commerce and civilization to show the mode by which the Signory defeated the monopoly of wool which Edward IV. had been weak enough to grant to one of its subjects, to the detriment of the rest, or the steps which it took to satisfy Anthony Widvile, Earl of Rivers, the King's brother-in-law, who had been robbed of his jewels at Baccano on his road from Rome, and who complained that the plunder had been brought to Venice for sale.

Rule proposed for author's guidance.

The application exemplified.

Very recently my attention has been drawn to a curious old document, a relic of the fifth crusade, and of its hero the "blind old Dandolo," the celebrated ancestor of the present keeper of the archives. It is on parchment, dated from the Island of St. Erasmus near Lido, in October 1202, and

purports that then, in the presence of Doge Henry Dandolo, of Louis Count of Blois and Clermont, of the Marshal of Champagne, and of several other Barons, Baldwin, Count of Flanders and Hainault, pledged himself to pay at the next fair of Ligny, to Marchesino Soranzo, Pietro Giuliani, Marino Gradenigo, and Luca Ardizone, one hundred and eighteen marks, STERLING, and three ounces, at the rate of 13 shillings [soldi] and 4 pence [denarii] for each silver mark; the document is signed by Renier Dandolo, the Doge's son, as *Vice-Doge*. The interest of this extract to the English antiquary consists in the satisfactory proof it affords that the word "sterling" was not used (as Ruding has asserted) "all over the continent of Europe for the purpose of pecu-"liarly designating the money of England," (Ruding's Annals of the Coinage of Britain, vol. i. p. 22), but that in these early times, at least, it also designated the received standard of Flanders, and probably of other portions of Western Europe.[1] I believe I am acting in the spirit of my rule by calendaring this document, and another of the year 1295, though an explanation is necessary to make their connection with England apparent to the general reader.

Very first entry relates to England.

One of the least important notices expressly relating to England and its subjects is the very first, but I give it, if for no other reason, because it is the first. It refers to a lawsuit brought in the year 1224 by one Raymond, who is called an Englishman, against Agnes, of Marseilles, who had promised her daughter to his son in marriage. The

[1] The word seems to have been used in Venice itself to express silver of a certain standard. In an original *Promissio Ducale* (vellum) of Doge Bortolomeo Gradenigo, A.D. 1339, in St. Mark's Library, we read, "De sex Tubis argenteis faciendis, quæ remaneant Procuratoribus. "S. Marci nec prætermittendum est quod trigenta Marcas argenti "STERLINORUM dare debemus, ut ex ipsis fabricentur sex Tubæ, quæ ad "honorem Ecclesiæ Beati, Sancti Marci post nostrum exitum de Ducatu "apud Procuratores operis ipsius Ecclesiæ remaneant recomendatæ pro "nostro Dominio; quas Tubas non ponamus, nec poni faciemus pro nobis, "vel aliis in pignore aliquo modo."

mother pleads that the intended bride has died at Marseilles, and the Signory write to the bishop of that town to inquire if this is fact; the bishop confirms the statement, but probably the marriage had been promised in liquidation of a debt, for the "minor Council" assign considerable damages to be paid to the plaintiff in spices and specie. It is very probable that many papers relating exclusively to France and French interests may be more useful to the writer of English history, in the ordinary acceptation of the term, than any of the above, but the only distinct and intelligible rule of selection under the circumstances seems to be that which I have laid down.

The documents which I design to notice in the present work will naturally fall under two divisions: those which refer to a time when no regular and continuous diplomatic intercourse was established between the two countries, and those which belong to a subsequent period.

Materials of the present work divided into those which precede and those which follow the establishment of continuous diplomatic relations.

Before concluding these observations, I propose to give some account of the materials of these two very different periods.

Some account of both proposed.

The notices of the pre-diplomatic times, if I may be allowed to coin the word, are comparatively few and meagre; they are connected with trade rather than politics, and more frequently relate to individual Englishmen than to the English government; but such as they are, in the dearth of fuller information, they will not be unacceptable to the reader. In a dark night the faintest gleam has its value. It is fortunate, however, that some of the individuals to whom the principal notices relate, are so eminent that every addition to their biography is a contribution to history; and the names of others are so familiar to the readers of Shakespeare that nothing which concerns them is without a certain degree of interest.

Trade of war.

Trade, we have seen, was the first bond of union between the two countries; but besides currants and wool, there was another kind of merchandise which found a still readier and

more profitable market—the most lucrative, and, as it was then thought, the noblest of trades, was the trade of mercenary war. The period was one of turbulence and strife, even religion took the form of warfare; a life of bloodshed and rapine might be expiated by taking the cross, and then perhaps committing acts of wanton outrage against the Turk or aiding a turbulent pontiff in some scheme of ecclesiastical usurpation. The spirit of knight-errantry and independent adventure leads rapidly to mercenary service. Few can make war at their own cost.

Condottieri.

The practice of engaging foreign troops was not peculiar to Italy; but to Italy alone it proved fatal. In that favoured country the small states had amassed wealth which the great kingdoms of the north might envy. Every petty tyrant, every ambitious ecclesiastic, could afford to pay a band of soldiers which might be hired as easily as a gang of navigators in modern days, and he was thus enabled to play the terrible game of war.

Nothing could exceed the reckless indifference with which these mercenaries of every nation changed their masters. Not only did the generals pass over from one service to another, but the captains with their troops abandoned the general, and the privates deserted their captains with no more consciousness of treachery than a modern footman feels on leaving his place for better wages.

The most eminent of these captains of free bands, or "condottieri," raised themselves to the importance of sovereign princes. They kept about them a staff of officers, and Latin secretaries to conduct their correspondence, and for the most part possessed as much accomplishment as any cavaliers of their day. Some of them were native Italians, but almost every country in Europe had its representative among them. A prominent figure in the group is Sir John Hawkwood. He first crossed the Alps in 1361, and his first feat of arms in those parts was to take prisoner the "Green Count" of Savoy at Cirié, a small town of Piedmont, to the

Sir John Hawkwood.

north of Turin. He was an Essex yeoman, the born vassal of John de Vere, 7th Earl of Oxford, with whom he seems to have made his first campaign in France in 1343. His talents and his daring soon gained him followers of his own, and he rapidly acquired among his contemporaries a reputation for generalship which is admitted even by Italian historians of the present day.

In 1376, Pope Gregory XI. bestowed on him the two castles of Cotignola and Bagnacavallo near Faenza, the earliest instance on record of the grant of a sovereign fief by any Italian potentate to an alien; and although he disposed of these fiefs in 1381, yet to this hour in their neighbourhood the traveller finds a record of him in the "*Strada Aguta*," or "*Hawkwood Road*," which tradition affirms to have been made by his orders for military purposes, and which has perpetuated his name for well nigh five centuries.[1]

His relations with the Signory.

In May 1378, the Council of Ten offered him a very large sum to ravage the Paduan territory, but he declined, on the ground that the Lord of Padua was his friend. He was again requested by the Signory to take the command of their foreign troops at the siege of Chioggia, but was unable to comply; and it was probably owing to the indiscipline which prevailed in consequence of the absence of this master-spirit that an affray took place between the Italians and the trans-Alpine troops (Germans and English), so serious, that the sands at Palestrina are said to have been strewed with corpses. The consequences might have been yet more

[1] The name appended to Hawkwood's letters at Mantua varies, thus—Johannes *Haukutd* or *Haucbbod, Haubchvod, Hauchwod, Hauhcuuod, Hauchud,* and *Haucud.* The signature, like the rest of the letter, seems to have been written by a scribe. The name of Aguto, by which the great condottiere is known in Italian history, and which is inscribed on his tomb at Florence, would scarcely have been identified with Hawkwood, if Villani had not recorded that in English it signified "Falcone in Bosco."

His comrades.

disastrous, but an Englishman, whose name is hardly known in history, came forward to restore order. William Gold succeeded in pacifying the combatants, and in drawing up articles of peace, which stopped all further discord in the Venetian camp. This treaty[1] is preserved in the Commemoriali, as also are the patents of citizenship and of a pension bestowed on Gold as a reward for past and a retainer for future services.[2]

Researches in other archives for their letters;

As the states of northern Italy employed so frequently the captains of free companies, it seemed advisable to look for records of English soldiers in other archives besides those of Venice. At Mantua, among the correspondents of the Marquis Ludovic Gonzaga, from May 1377 to 1381, we find (besides Sir John Hawkwood and his wife Donina Visconti, the natural daughter of Bernabò) the above-mentioned William Gold, John Thornbury, and Walter Bonet, all of whom were condottieri. The letters by English soldiers which have as yet been discovered in these archives amount to 34.[3]

and the result.

Letters relating to English Freebands at Cividale del Friuli.

Some curious documents have also been found in the capitular library of Cividale del Friuli, a small town four leagues to the north-east of Udine. They relate to a negotiation between certain English free bands and the Patriarch of Aquileia.

It seems that in the year 1388 a company, numbering 800 Englishmen, men-at-arms and archers, and calling itself the "Brigade of St. George" (it was the fourth military

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[1] It was published by Verci, A.D. 1790, in his History of the March of Treviso.

[2] The patent is registered in the Book of Privileges. In the same volume may be found another document which bears on a much disputed point: it is the patent of naturalization of Sebastian Cabot. This proves, at least, that he was not a native of Venice.

[3] A very able account of the archives at Mantua was published there in 1861, by the Cavalier Toderini, to whom I am indebted for acquaintance with these letters, which were subsequently procured for me by Count Dandolo.

company formed in Italy under the patronage of that warrior saint within the century) had seceded from a larger corps, commanded by Sir John Belton, then in the service of Pope Urban VI., having been bribed to do so by the Florentines.[1] They appointed Sir John Hawkwood their commander, and established their head quarters in the March of Ancona; but while there they addressed the letter now preserved at Cividale to the Patriarch of Aquileia, without the slightest reference to their nominal commander-in-chief. The Patriarch, it seems, desired to avail himself of the distress of the house of Carrara, which was then nodding to its fall, and took the opportunity of advancing his claims to some neighbouring castles. The quarrel was taken up by other parties connected with it in various ways by the intricacies of the feudal law. Force was the only possible arbiter of the dispute, and the Patriarch treated with Sir Robert de Felton, who brought credentials from the brigade, for the purpose of engaging their venal services.

Ill success in looking for letters at Verona,

Two years previously, a stepson of the Black Prince fought under the banner of the Lord of Verona, Antonio della Scala. He was then in exile for the murder of Ralph de Stafford, and probably bore the name of "*Stockwood;*" this anagram being doubtless adopted with reference to his mother's barony of *Woodstock*, for the Paduan chronicler calls him "Messer *Giovanni Sochuit* fratello del Re d'Inghilterra."[2] He was captured by the Paduans on the 25th June 1386, and it might therefore be expected that some correspondence relating to his release, or in some way springing out of this event, might be found; but the search which has been made in the libraries of Verona has hitherto proved fruitless.

and at Padua.

The intercourse which had long subsisted between Sir John Hawkwood and the house of Carrara made it highly probable that some interesting documents relating to him might be found in the Paduan archives; but in reply to

[1] Minerbetti, col. 167; and Ammirato, p. 555.

[2] Andrea Gataro, col. 532A.

my inquiries I have been informed that a fire in the year 1420 destroyed all the papers that remained there of the ancient dynasty. The more important part of them, it has already been stated, was removed to Venice, when the republic took possession of the sovereignty.

Success at Milan.

In the archives of Milan, it seemed reasonable to hope that some documents relating to Englishmen might be found. The connection with England was of very early date. In

Early connection of the Visconte with the Royal Family of England.

June 1368 Galeazzo Visconti married his daughter to Lionel Duke of Clarence, second son of Edward III.; and, in May 1377, his brother, the wily Bernabò, secured to himself the aid of English lances, by marrying his natural daughter to Sir John Hawkwood.

Letters of the legate Coppini.

To a considerable extent the search has been successful. Among the most important of the documents which have been found, is the correspondence of the legate Francesco de' Coppini, bishop of Teramo, with the Yorkists, and with Francesco Sforza Duke of Milan, to whom he transmitted a copy of the identical letter to Henry VI., which has been already published in England from the Vatican transcript.[1] In this Milanese copy, however, there is a marginal note additional, purporting that the letter was then of old date, but that it had been transmitted, to clear the legate from certain imputations; evidently those which eventually caused his disgrace and imprisonment.

The other letters connected with the legate, the Lancastrians, and the Yorkists, are in number 23, bearing date from 15th August 1460 to June 10, 1462. Amongst the writers are Henry VI., the Earl of Warwick, George Nevill, bishop of Exeter and Lord Chancellor, and Richard Beauchamp, bishop of Salisbury, all which correspondence has been calendared, with considerable minuteness, in its proper place. The dates of the later documents, in number 102, range from 1464 to 1531. The Signor Luigi Osio, the director of the Archives at Milan, obligingly sup-

[1] Ellis, 3d series, vol. i. p. 85.

plied me with copies of the whole series, and from my friend Alessandro Marcello, who was on the spot, and kindly aided in procuring me this favour, I ascertained that Coppini's letters appear to have been written in sympathetic ink. The Signor L. Osio writes on the subject as follows:—"Nell' "anno 1461 diversi documenti dì assai difficile lezione "*scritti, per quanto sembra con inchiostri simpatici*, pro- "venienti dall' Inghilterra, &ca. &ca."

Written in sympathetic ink.

In the Venetian archives, during the fourteenth century, there are to be found occasional notices of the arrival of travellers important enough to deserve the Signory's attention, and thus we are enabled to account for a portion of the life of the Earl of Derby, "the ingrate and cankered Bolingbroke," afterwards Henry IV., of which our own historians are totally silent.

Bolingbroke's (Henry IV.) visit to Venice in his way to the Holy Land.

In the year 1390 the Doge of Genoa, Antonio Adorno, having declared a crusade against the Moors applied for aid to France, and probably, also, to Christendom generally. At that moment there was a truce between Richard II. of England and Charles VI. of France, and the martial spirits of both countries were disengaged. The Duke of Bourbon put himself at the head of 1,500 men at arms, with the usual proportion of archers and infantry. Among these crusaders was Bolingbroke, accompanied by 300 English knights. The zeal and unanimity of the troops were all that could be desired; on one point only there was a difference of opinion—who was to bless the fleet? The English acknowledged the newly elected Pope Boniface. The French held to the anti-pope Clement; so as priests, both orthodox and heterodox, abounded at Genoa, it was agreed that the champions, being all on their way to attack the Church's enemies, and unanimous on that point, should leave the primacy of the Church an open question, and should all and each be blessed according to their individual views respecting its legitimate head.

On Bolingbroke's return from this expedition, we find in

the miscellaneous journals of the senate a notice of him, dated in November 1392.

The preamble of the document states, with the most ingenuous gravity, that whereas it has always been the policy of the Republic to oblige potentates and the great of this world, especially in such matters as are easily granted; and whereas the magnifico, the Lord Henry of Lancaster, all of whose other titles are given with marvellous correctness, had sent an embassy of knights and noblemen, backed by a letter of recommendation from Albert IV., Duke of Austria, requesting to be furnished with a galley completely equipped, to be armed, however, at his own expense, for the purpose of conveying him to Palestine, to visit the Holy Sepulchre; so, "it is put to the ballot and carried, that the "request be granted (we obliging him thus generously, in "consideration of the advantage which may result to our sub-"jects visiting those regions)"; and in order that the great man may know the exact amount of his obligation, it is directed that the embassy be informed of the precise sum expended by the Republic for his accommodation. This vote was passed on the 11th November, and on the 30th the Earl appeared, having probably come direct from the court of the Duke of Austria, whose intercession was evidently held in great account by the Signory. Whereupon according to the custom of the day the Grand Council voted 300 ducats to be spent in such presents, to their guest, as might seem fit to the executive. The average length of the journey from Venice to Jerusalem was at that time between six and seven weeks. The track was by Parenzo, Zara, Liesina, Ragusa Corfu, Modon, Candia, Rhodes, Cyprus, and Jaffa, touching, probably, at all those places. Bolingbroke's stay at the Holy Sepulchre must have been short; for in the following year, on the last day of March, another vote of a hundred golden ducats is passed, to honour the illustrious pilgrim on his happy return.

His rival Norfolk's visit.

The next Englishman of note who applied to the Senate for aid to reach the Holy Land was Bolingbroke's antagonist,

Thomas Mowbray, who brought a letter from Richard II. which he presented in February 1398-9, and obtained the same favour which had been granted to his rival. These details serve to correct the inaccuracies which some writers have fallen into respecting the supposed displeasure of the King and the consequent imprisonment of Norfolk at Windsor; but their chief interest to the general reader is derived from the touching lines of Shakespeare, in which the Bishop of Carlisle announces Norfolk's death, in answering Bolingbroke's promise to restore him "to all his lands and signories:"

> "That honourable day shall ne'er be seen.—
> "Full many a time hath banish'd Norfolk fought
> "For Jesu Christ; in glorious Christian field
> "Streaming the ensign of the Christian cross
> "Against black Pagan, Turk, and Saracen:
> "And, toil'd with works of war, retired himself
> "To Italy: and there, at Venice, gave
> "His body to that pleasant country's earth,
> "And his pure soul unto his Captain, Christ,
> "Under whose banner he had fought so long."

It is singular that the title under which the Duke is presented *by his Sovereign* to the Signory is that of "*Guildford.*" I can show no evidence to prove why or when he assumed this title, nor how long he bore it, but no reasonable doubt can be entertained of his identity. In two subsequent Venetian documents, dated 1403–4, and published by Sir H. Ellis, 3d series, vol. i. p. 46, he is styled Duke of Norfolk: they urge a claim on the part of some of his noble Venetian friends, a Bembo and a Zane, to recover a debt which he had incurred in the year 1399 to defray the expenses of his pilgrimage. The duke had been already dead more than three years when Doge Steno pressed Henry IV. to compel the heirs to pay the demand.

Norfolk's monumental or memorial tables.

Some 128 years after this date Marin Sanuto tells us of a request made, through the ambassador Capello, by Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk (uncle of Queen Anne Boleyn),

to have the bones of his ancestor transmitted to England for entombment among the Mowbrays and the Howards. The Deliberazioni Senato show that there was some difficulty in identifying the actual place of interment; but there is evidence that, in 1682, a monumental achievement, without inscription and of enigmatical design, bearing the banner of England—the white hart of Richard II., the white swan of Bolingbroke, and Mowbray's cap of maintenance—was to be seen in the external gallery of the Ducal Palace, where it had long been embedded in the wall fronting the sea, and immediately opposite to St. Georgio Maggiore, a church dedicated to the patron saint of England.[1] In 1810, during the French occupation of Venice, this stone attracted attention. It bore the arms of England, and consequently was ordered to be defaced. The workman, a poor mason, by name *Domenico Spiera*, who was commissioned to "raze out the impress," was shocked at the vandalism, and, instead of destroying the carving, which is of very fine workmanship, he inserted the stone in the pavement, with its face downwards.

On Christmas eve 1839 the writer, in making inquiries for this monumental tablet, had the good fortune to discover the humble antiquary by whom it had been concealed, then the only person living acquainted with the transaction; by this man's assistance he was enabled to recover the stone. For its future safe custody he sent it to England, and presented it to one of Thomas Mowbray's descendants.

Bolingbroke assisted in his warfare against the Turks.

But we have not yet done with Bolingbroke. In 1394, his father, the Duke of Lancaster, was negotiating as an independent sovereign with the King of Hungary, the Dukes of Burgundy and Orleans, and with Venice, the league against Bajazet I. which ended in the disastrous rout of Nicopoli, September 1396. On that occasion Bolingbroke commanded a thousand English lances[2]; and

[1] "Li pregi della nobiltà veneta," da D. Casimiro Freschot, p. 138 (Venezia, 1682).

[2] Minerbetti, col. 364D. (Muratori collectanea.)

after the rout saved himself on board the Venetian and Genoese fleet, which, in virtue of the treaty with his father, had been stationed at the confluence of the Otzuma and the Danube in Bulgaria.[1]

The documents relating to this negotiation curiously illustrate the feeling of the age. In one of them, after reciting in the preamble every reason of policy, and of what now would be considered good faith and common sense, for remaining at peace with the Turk, who on his part was honourably keeping his engagements; and further, after recapitulating the loss to the State and the probable ruin to individuals which will be occasioned by a rupture, nevertheless, the Senate goes on to say, so paramount is the duty of abetting all attacks upon the enemies of the faith, that it will not refuse the 25 galleys which the League require for the transport of their troops.

Various entries relating to these events in the journals of the Senate.

It is characteristic of the time, that on receiving this favourable reply, the Hungarian ambassadors desire the Signory to specify on what account they lend their aid, whether for the love of God, or respect for the King their master. The Signory cautiously reply that they are moved by both considerations, and they hint a very reasonable expectation that the King should acknowledge his share of the obligation by closing his ports in the Adriatic against any enemies of Venice who may in future enter the Gulf with hostile intentions. Subsequently, on the rout of the Crusaders, the King of Hungary owed his escape to the Venetian galleys, but, in as far as the Republic expected her reward from his gratitude, he was disappointed, for, subsequently, he took the earliest opportunity of invading the territory of Treviso.

Bolingbroke made his way homewards, having spent the period during which he disappears from English history in pilgrimages and in active warfare against the Moslem, and in thus laying in a stock of merit which according to his

[1] Sanuto, Lives of the Doges, cols. 762, 763.

own notions would not only wipe out the many offences of his youth, but go far to sanctify the usurpation which it is probable he had long meditated. And at last the long-sighted courtesy of the Republic seems to have been rewarded; for among the documents registered in the Commemoriali, we have to calendar a letter addressed by Henry IV. to Doge Venier, and written on the 4th October 1399, only four days after Richard's deposition, to announce his own accession "by the right of blood and the unanimous consent of Lords and Commons;" and in this letter, which is written in a tone of jubilant and exulting cordiality, he promises to treat with all favour as his own subjects, "ut nostros proprios ligeos," all Venetians who may arrive in any part of his dominions by land or sea. (Commemoriali, No. 9.)

Registers relating to English Kings.

The Registers of the Senate and the first Book of Privileges exhibit a variety of entries connected with England in the reigns of Henry IV., Henry V., Henry VI. and Edward IV. The volumes containing copies of *registered* treaties (the index of which, compiled from the transcript now at Vienna, was published at Munich by Drs. Tafel and Thomas in 1855,) do not afford a single document of especial interest to Great Britain; but, on the other hand, amongst the *unregistered* treaties we find several to which our Sovereigns were parties. Not a few of their original letters are preserved, and I may here mention that in the 21st volume of the "Commemoriali" there is registered the identical:—

Wolsey's treaty with Ferrara.

"Large commission
"To Gregory de Cassalis, to conclude
"Without the King's will or the State's allowance
"A league between his Highness and Ferrara."

(*King Henry VIII.*, act iii. sc. 4.)

In it Wolsey styles himself the King's lieutenant-general, and after reciting his appointment to that office, states that the King had given him the amplest powers to treat and conclude with every Sovereign in Christendom. It is dated Amboise, 26th August 1527; nor have I ever met with it elsewhere;

the document is in Latin, signed by Wolsey, and countersigned by Peter Vannes.

Forty letters on *parchment* addressed by English Sovereigns to various Popes, and now classed amongst these same "unregistered treaties," demand particular attention: they bear dates from 1476 to 1506, and are authenticated by the original signatures of Edward IV., Richard III., and Henry VII. By what means they passed from the "*Vatican*" to the Signory's "*Secreta*" is a mystery I am unable to explain; and nine other missives, evidently of the same series, though written on paper, are in like manner preserved in St. Mark's library. Being of a more perishable material, it is possible that they were considered mere literary curiosities, and as the Ten occasionally transferred similar historical records from the archives to the public library, this explanation seems not improbable. Of these royal letters on paper, the earliest is written by Edward IV. in 1471 to Sixtus IV. One is from Henry VII., date February 1505; and the remainder, signed by James IV. of Scotland, date from 1490 to 1492.

Forty letters of English Sovereigns.

The earliest of these royal missives, on parchment, is especially interesting as showing how actively and how long the leaven of the Reformation was fermenting in the country before the final separation from Rome. It is written from Windsor, on the 24th February 1475–6, by Edward IV. to Sixtus IV. The object is to obtain from the Pontiff fresh letters of condemnation against that pupil of iniquity and perdition (*maximus iniquitatis et perdicionis alumpnus*) Reginald Pecock. The learned editor of the "*Repressor*" has already stated that "*in* 1476 *Edward IV. denounced* "*him, his books and followers, which last were numerous in* "*Oxford*[1]; and this letter of the King to the Pope, dated in the preceding year, sets forth that "the letters which his

The first described.

[1] "The Repressor of over-much Blaming of the Clergy," &c. Edited by Churchill Babington, B.D. Published by the authority of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, under the direction of the Master of the Rolls. Vol. i., p. lx., note 1. (London, 1860.) The date of the letter from Edward IV. about Pecock being 24 February 1475,

" Holiness' predecessor, Paul II., had given, have remained " without effect, owing to the Pontiff's demise, and also to " civil strife;" whereas after the death of the said Reginald (supposed to have taken place before 1464),[1] his writings were multiplied in such wise, that not merely the laity but even churchmen and graduates scarcely studied anything else, so that the "pestiferous virus would have spread far " and wide, had not the Almighty revealed the secrets " of certain penitents" [nisi Deus aliquorum penitencium aperuisset occulta]. Then follows an earnest petition for permission to persecute; and a promise to do so to the utmost. Under the dates of Dec. 1491 and January 1492 respectively, will be found two letters written by Henry VII. the one to the Pope Innocent VIII., the other to the Regent Duke of Milan, Ludovico Sforza il Moro, which are highly interesting. They exhibit the same apprehension of French ambition, and of French thirst for territorial extension, which has been felt by politicians since the commencement of modern history, and they express it in terms which with little change might be adapted to the circumstances of the present day. Henry expatiates in detail on the combination of artifice and violence by which the territories of his ally the Duchess of Brittany have been invaded and annexed to France, and he proceeds to caution his Holiness that this lust of dominion may " extend " itself even to the detriment of certain Italian potentates, " and likewise inflict some trouble and injury on your " Holiness and the Apostolic see, through that Pragmatic " Sanction, which we always condemned," and which being thus introduced into Brittany, alienates that country also from its due dependence on the Holy See.

Letters from Henry VII. to the Pope and the Duke of Milan.

Among the documents which have been found in places where they were not to be expected I may mention a letter communicated to me by the Count Pietro di Montereale Mantica of Pordenone. It is dated London, 16th July 1409,

Letter from Dereham to the leaders of the Council of Pisa in Henry IV.'s time.

probably 1475-6, the year commencing in March, it may be inferred that this is the very letter to which Mr. Babington refers.

[1] Babington, p. lvii., note 2.

and is written by Richard Dereham,[1] chancellor of Canterbury, to the two cardinals, Antonio Caetani and Francesco degli Aguzzoni, the leaders of the Council of Pisa, assuring them of the cordial support of Henry IV., "usque ad sanguinis "effusionem." Such was the interest which he professed to take in the suppression of the great schism. That such a document should exist in the Friuli may perhaps be accounted for, by the fact that the cardinal Caetani was Patriarch of Aquileia.

Passage to the diplomatic period.

In passing to the diplomatic period, when business of all kinds and the papers relating to it were indefinitely multiplied, the same laborious gleaning is neither necessary nor possible. The student feels like a traveller who has emerged from a desert region where he could barely find a subsistence, and suddenly enters a land where abundance makes him fastidious. But I shall not intentionally omit any notice relating to Great Britain, its possessions, or its subjects; though I shall feel much less confident of having gathered all that can be found; and in the impossibility of discovering, without index or catalogue, every document precisely at the moment that is fittest for its insertion, I must claim indulgence if the exact chronological order is not always preserved. The deficiencies in this respect, it is hoped, may be compensated by a general index. If historical truth is to be tracked through the intricacies of contemporary documents, the search must be as general and as extensive as possible, or it will bring to light only partial truth, which in many instances is positive error. The various State Papers of the same country are needed to explain and check each other, and the MS. documents of the different countries of Europe must be brought to confront each other at the bar of criticism. It is not fair that the statement which chance has first put into print should have a monopoly of credit with the public. The following example relates to a fact which is not of much historical importance, as the event turned out, but it is so much in point that I venture to quote it in detail.

Abundance of materials.

Impossibility of preserving always the exact chronological order without the help of a catalogue.

Necessity of comparing one document with another.

Example.

[1] This is the same person who is mentioned as being in Denmark 1402, in the "Letters of the Reign of Henry IV.," pp. xlii. and 121.

In the 2nd series of Sir Henry Ellis's original letters, vol. 3, p. 218, the English ambassador, Sir Gilbert Talbot, relates that he gave to the Doge such an affecting account of the battle of Marston Moor as to draw tears from the good old man, and, what is more important, a promise to aid the King with men, money, and arms. It sounds improbable that Doge Erizzo, who was of a family little given to the melting mood,[1] should be so carried away by his feelings as to promise more than Doges of the olden time, who were really the moving power of the state, could have ventured to undertake. But Sir Gilbert goes on to add that the Doge called an extraordinary assembly of the Pregadi, and procured a vote in accordance with his promise. In flat contradiction to this statement, the entries in the journals of the Senate and College, which will be calendared in their proper place, show that the Signory contented itself with the usual phrases of esteem and condolence; and in reply to a request for a loan cautiously excused itself on the plea of the expensive warfare then going on against the Turks.

Too much must not be expected.

The reader must not, however, raise too highly his expectations of the service which the study of the Venetian archives may render to the cause of historical truth. It is by the aggregate of little corrections, rather than by the importance of each taken singly, that the value of contemporary records is tested. We must not too confidently hope to be rewarded by the solution of some one of the great problems of history; such a prize is to be kept in view as a possibility to animate our zeal; but must not be looked to as an object of probable attainment. It is much if we are enabled to explain some of its minor puzzles, to clear up characters, and motives which have been misunderstood, or to settle a disputed point in biography.

The solution of the great historical puzzles of rare occurrence.

Examples of the notices in the Venetian MS.

It is satisfactory to ascertain from Giustinian's despatches the exact nature and extent of Henry VIII's canvass for the Imperial crown, of which his contemporaries knew so little and modern historians have said so much more than they

[1] There is a popular Venetian proverb to this effect, 'Nè Mocenigo povero, nè *Erizzo pietoso*, nè Balbi ricco," &c.

know. A despatch of the ambassador Badoer contains the account of a mission to Henry VIII., on his accession, in August 1509, which is given nowhere else, and which is highly illustrative of the young King's proud, imperious temper, and of the jealousy with which from the first he regarded his French rivals. He takes fire at a phrase in the oration of the ambassador Antoine Duprat, Abbé de Fécamp, which implies that Henry himself had, in the first instance, expressed a desire to continue amicable relations. He fiercely asks which of his servants has dared to compromise him by such language; demands the immediate payment of what he calls his tribute, and treats the envoy, during the remainder of his brief visit, with marked disrespect. The earliest hint of the divorce of Queen Catherine is to be found in the two following passages of Marin Sanuto's Diaries. As early as 1510, on occasion of the Queen's miscarriage, which the ambassador, Badoer, reports on the 8th June of that year, he obscurely intimates that there had gone abroad a vague anticipation of some change, for the purpose, as he implies, of securing the succession, "fanno nuovi pensieri." But though the succession was the chief object of every Englishman's political speculations at that time, it was so obviously premature to calculate on Catherine's sterility, that it is probable other considerations also pointed to the possibility of a divorce. In 1514 (August 20) Andrea Lipomano writes from Rome (the place where no doubt the project, when really formed, would be first distinctly mentioned), that it is said to be the intention of King Henry "to repudiate his present wife, the daughter of the King of Spain and the widow of his brother," and he goes on to name as her destined successor a daughter of the French Duke of Bourbon. In after years, much light is thrown on the state of public feeling during the discussion of Catherine's divorce, by certain advices received through the French ambassador which are recorded by Sanuto, on the 18th December, 1531. They state that a mob of 7,000 or 8,000 *women* had, a few weeks previously, sallied from London with the intention of killing Anne Boleyn, "l'amata del Rè d'Inghil-

First intimation of the intention to divorce Queen Catherine.

terra," who was supping in a summer-house on the river, "the said King not being with her." But the intended victim was warned of her danger in time to escape across the river in a wherry. Again, in the May of the following year, a preacher who was advocating the divorce at St. Paul's was stopped by a woman who told him "that he lied, and that this example in a king would be "the destruction of the holy tie of matrimony, 'che con-"tiene l'uomo nel civil et Christiano viver.'" For her outspoken boldness this unflinching champion of her sex was arrested, but we hear nothing further of her fate.

Early visit of Cromwell to the Low Countries.

A Venetian despatch enables us to verify an early visit of Cromwell to the Low Countries, which has frequently been disputed by his biographers. The following instance not only clears up a point in the biography of one whose name is still familiar in men's mouths, but also illustrates the difficulty of extracting from a vast mass of miscellaneous papers the information bearing on a special subject. I had long been desirous of finding in the archives some notice of the "admirable Crichton," whose arrival in Venice is mentioned by the younger Aldus in a letter to the Duke of Sora, dated 10th October 1581, and I had frequently made search in what seemed likely quarters. Very lately chance directed a kind friend, the Signor Lorenzi, to the desired discovery. In the archives of the Ten, register 35, "Commune," p. 60, is the following entry :—

Admirable Crichton.

"A.D. 1580 (Register, Council of Ten and the Zonta or Junta of the Ten), 19 August.—A young Scotchman has arrived in this city, by name Giacomo Critonio (James Crichton), of very noble lineage (from what one hears about his quality); and from what has been clearly seen by divers proofs and trials made with very learned and scientific men, and especially by a Latin oration which he delivered *this morning* extempore in our college—of most rare and singular ability [virtù]. In such wise, that not being above twenty years of age, or but a little more, he astounds and surprises everybody. A thing which in like manner as it is altogether extraordinary, and beyond what nature usually produces, so ought it extraordinarily to induce this council to make some courteous demonstration towards so marvellous a personage;

most especially as from accidents and foul fortune which have befallen him, he is in very straitened circumstances: Wherefore, it will be put to the ballot, that of the monies of the chest of this Council there be given to the said Crichton, a Scottish gentleman, one hundred golden crowns. Ayes, 22; noes, 2; neutrals, 4."

Aldus's letter, besides giving a loose and inaccurate version of the story, seems to refer the date of this visit to 1581, and the correction of a year is not unimportant in the biography of so brief a life, for Crichton was struck down by the dagger of an assassin in the flower of early youth. Even where no historical fact is elicited, contemporary state papers have the interest of original memoirs, with a stronger guarantee for their veracity. In truth, ancient gossip becomes history, and trivial things, when they tend to illustrate the manners of the times, cease to be unimportant. It is not uninteresting to be introduced to the Protector's family circle, and to learn that Mary Cromwell's marriage with Lord Fauconberg, which Clarendon says was celebrated "with all imaginable pomp and state," was, in fact perfectly private. The Lord Protector had intended to make it more splendid than that of his daughter Mrs. Rich, which had taken place a few days previously, and the sum he intended to spend must have been very considerable, for Lord Fauconberg thought it worth while to request that he might have the cost of this proposed splendour in hard cash. Subsequently on the Restoration, Lady Fauconberg made frequent efforts, during her husband's embassy at Venice to be allowed to join him and to be received there as ambassadress, but the Court would not allow itself to be represented by the daughter of the regicide, she on her part would not remain at home alone to face the slights of the triumphant party, and Lord Fauconberg, after having managed to make his services acceptable both to the usurper and the restored monarch, is at last forced to relinquish diplomacy by his wife.

Venetian despatches resemble contemporary memoirs.

Their uses illustrated.

The despatches of the Venetian ambassador inform us that the grant of Chute forest which Charles I. is supposed to have made to his prime minister, Weston, Earl of Portland was in fact, a sale made by the Lord Treasurer under

a false name to himself, that he was accused of the fraud before the Council Board, and made so lame a defence, that his guilt was supposed to be proved. The envious and the curious all went to Court on the following Sunday, expecting to witness the signs of the Lord Treasurer's approaching fall; but speculation was baffled and intrigue was set to work again, on seeing that all went off as usual, and then before the expiration of the year the sudden death of the Lord Treasurer himself gave an unexpected termination to the whole struggle.

Nor must we expect that the revelations of unpublished MSS. will make black and white change places in our estimation of character, and suddenly alter the notions we have formed of the great actors in the drama of history. With respect to characters, as well as facts, it is rather by minute and repeated touches that the form and colour of truth are to be restored, than by substituting a new picture for an old one. After prying into contemporary documents it will be less easy to throw off a bold striking sketch of historical personages, but we shall have more trustworthy materials for a finished portrait. If the lights are less broad, the shadows will be less black. It is, no doubt perplexing to be compelled to note the weaknesses of the strong and the follies of the wise; we are loth, it may be, to discover the delinquencies of those whom we have been accustomed to call great, and would fain believe to be good. Thus perhaps the reader may regret to find on record a piratical proposal to seize and plunder Genoa, which was made to the Duke of Savoy, in the beginning of the year 1617, by no less a personage than Sir Walter Raleigh, whose bravery, talents, and tragic end have cast a veil over his errors. But, on the other hand, we learn to appreciate the temptations and the difficulties of those whom the verdict of posterity has condemned, to understand their real positions, to enter into their feelings, and thus to become more just and more charitable in our judgments.

Historians, especially those of the old school, in their eagerness to explain the sequence of events as they occurred, often so shape their narratives as to convey the

impression that nothing could have turned out otherwise than as it did, and consequently that the actors in the drama who dreaded or desired any other than the actual result, must be taxed either with folly or perversity. In judging them we are apt to use the knowledge we now possess, to apply the opinions that are now current, and the standard of morality that is now received. For all these natural mistakes, the study of contemporary documents is the specific remedy. In the difficulty which English writers experience even now in writing with calmness the history of Charles I.'s quarrels with his Parliament, it is instructive to study the despatches of the Venetian ambassador, Anzolo Correr (Angelo Corrario), who records, from week to week, the progress of events and of opinions with the calmness and accuracy of an impartial spectator. It would be difficult to find a clearer or fairer account of the origin of the celebrated dispute about ship money than the following:

"The reports here of naval preparations are hourly more and more confirmed by facts: it is supposed that by fitting out a fleet they aim at the complete recovery of that maritime supremacy maintained for so long by the English flag, and which is now somewhat diminished or but slightly acknowledged.

"By an ancient law of the realm all the provinces bordering in the least on the sea were bound to furnish a certain sum for the cost of the Royal navy in ordinary, both to guard the coast and to protect trade.

"At this present His Majesty is in the receipt of other funds for the defrayment of this charge, as derived especially from the duties on wine, silk, &c., which are very considerable; and thenceforth those provinces became completely exempt from this tax; and they assert that it has not been levied for centuries.

"Now, however, availing himself as a pretext of the necessity for reinforcing the fleet, the King, or rather his Lord Treasurer, has, without more ado, thought fit to order the immediate exaction of this tax. The measure has exasperated the whole country; by so much the more, as it diminishes the chance of any immediate meeting of Parliament."

It is highly interesting also to mark the changes in national customs and habits which contemporary documents record, though it must be owned they sometimes draw largely on our faith. France was always famous for cookery,

and when young Francesco Gradenigo, son of the ambassador in Paris, tells us in 1596, that he got a better dinner in London for 10 sous than he got in Paris for 60, we presume he was predetermined to be pleased. But what shall we say, when we find that the Venetians in the 17th century were better shots than the English? Sir Henry Wotton in a conversation relating to the Papacy (which is duly registered, Esposizioni Principi Roma, A.D. 1606, p. 108,) told Doge Donà that he was delighted with seeing the wild fowl shooting in the Lagunes, for that shooting flying was to him a novelty. This is scarcely credible without confirmation; but, as late as 1727, Jeremiah Markland published a poem, which he called Pteryplegia, or the art of shooting flying, and in his preface he says, "it is as rare for a marksman of the French nation to miss a bird flying, as it is for one of ours to kill."

Character of the diplomatic correspondence.

For the general reader perhaps the greatest charm of original documents is that they present the actors in all the reality of life, and not as puppets danced before the reader's eyes in the plausible and measured narrative of the historian; and for the merits of graphic description and truthfulness the Venetian State Papers are conspicuous. The correspondence of the ambassador is marked by a confidence in the sympathy of the reader, which is very rare in State Papers, even of an early date. There is apparent an anxiety to report everything just as it was said, to describe men and things just as they appeared, as if to enable the Signory to form its own conclusions and to check the writer's inferences by his own statements. It is difficult in such an abundance of materials to select any one example as especially illustrating the above remarks. As an early specimen I would call attention to the letters written by Vincenzo Quirini in the beginning of 1506. He had been appointed ambassador to Queen Joanna and her consort the Archduke Philip, who, in virtue of his crown matrimonial is styled King of Castile, and accompanied them in their sea voyage from Flanders to Spain. In the channel the fleet was overtaken by a violent storm, and driven into English ports for shelter. The vessel which contained the ambassador, after having, as he cal-

Specimens.

Quirini's letter, describing the stay of Philip and Joanna in England.

culates, according to the geographical notions of the day, reached the "edge of the Bay of Biscay," with difficulty made Falmouth. During his detention on our coast of not less than three months, he not only kept the Signory accurately informed of all that was passing, but he also gathered materials for a report on England. He speaks of his own perils and of his feelings with the confidence and unreserve of one who is writing to a familiar friend. The account he gives of the courage of the Queen, and of the composure and good feeling displayed by the Archduke in moments of extreme peril, is a valuable contribution to the history of personages who so soon disappeared from the political stage. He tells how the ship royal was for a long time on her beam-ends, and thrice was on fire; how the Prince remained on deck encouraging the crew till he was struck down by a wave with such violence that he was thought to be killed; all was lost, it was believed. He then took leave of his attendants; expressed his regret for having been the cause of the death of so many brave men, for, as his own vessel was the best, he nothing doubted the whole fleet would perish. He declared his resignation to the divine will, and only lamented the tender age of his helpless children, and the confusion and ruin which his death would cause in his unsettled dominions. But when man was powerless, God was merciful. Then follow minute details of the movements of the Court, and the pains that were taken to inform all the scattered attendants of the safety of their Sovereigns.

These letters are further interesting for as much as they throw light on a disputed point of history. The detention of the royal party in England has been represented by historians, and more especially by Lingard, as a "splendid captivity." But the ambassador's narrative proves that the length of the visit, which probably has confirmed the modern historian in this belief, was caused by the necessity of refitting the shattered fleet, the anxiety to secure good weather, and perhaps in some degree by the eccentricities of Joanna herself.

Its bearing on the assertion that constraint was put upon them.

The public opinion of the day immediately assumed that Henry would avail himself of this opportunity to obtain, perhaps to extort, some political concession from his involuntary guests, and the speculations of their suite immediately are directed towards those dynastic marriages which fill so large a space in the diplomacy of the time. Forthwith the espousals of an infant son of the Archduke to the infant Lady Maria Tudor, and of Henry himself to Lady Margaret, the Archduke's sister, are reported. But above all, the extradition of "White Rose," Edmund de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk, is pointed out by public rumour as the prime object of Henry's negotiations: and so far the public were right; the Earl was given up. But it is probable that flattery rather than menace was the engine employed to work upon the Archduke. Quirini speaks of the civilities lavished on the royal party, the meeting at Winchester, and the interchange of their respective orders of chivalry: "The Archduke accepting "the garter, and in return conferring the golden fleece on "the Prince of Wales, *to the great contentment*," he adds, "*of both parties as if they had been father and son.*"

On the 17th April Quirini writes that the Council of Malines had refused to give up the Earl till they were assured that their Sovereign was safe out of England; but that the Archduke considered his honour engaged, and insisted on his orders being executed without delay. A further and quite unexpected difficulty seems to have been created by the extravagant humours of the Queen. During the residence of the Court in Flanders, her irrational jealousy had caused her to dismiss all her ladies but one "ancient countess," and unluckily when it was decided to go to Spain by sea, no power could persuade this ancient countess to stir. Philip did not think it right that his wife should return to her dominions without one female attendant, and accordingly engaged a Flemish lady of rank, the Countess de Fiennes, "a very superior woman," to accompany her. But before they left England, Joanna's jealousy of this lady had grown to such a frantic height

that during the whole of Passion week she refused to leave her room unless the offensive stranger was dismissed. How she was induced to embark at last, we are not told; but this and all the other causes of delay are mentioned by the ambassador with a calmness and indifference, which clearly indicate that to his apprehension, neither the Archduke nor his suite had at any period of their stay felt real alarm as to their forcible detention in the country.

Contarini's letter describing the entry of Wolsey into Bruges.

The next despatch is instanced merely as one which confirms by a singularly lively and graphic narrative the popular conception of a well-known historical character. A letter from Gasparo Contarini in St. Mark's library, dated August 16, 1521, gives an account of Wolsey's entrance into Bruges, when the Emperor and the whole court went out of the gates to meet him, and there he kept them waiting an hour and a half; and when they did meet, "his Right Rev. Lordship did not dismount from his "mule, but after doffing his bonnet he from saddle to "saddle embraced the Emperor, who did the like by his "Right Rev. Lordship, cap in hand." The Cardinal travels with a retinue of 1,050 horse, and he has "at his stirrup" 20 English gentlemen in silk dresses and with gold chains. He is admitted to walk under the same canopy with the Emperor and to share his kneeling desk at church. The foreign ambassadors all kiss his hand, and so much is he occupied with sovereign princes and princesses, (the Lady Margaret, Governess of the Netherlands, amongst them,) that he is obliged to put off from day to day the Venetian ambassador, who every morning sends his secretary to demand an audience, in vain. The whole letter is too long for insertion and too full of detail for analysis; but the impression which it conveys of Wolsey's assumption, not by complaint or invective, but by the plain narrative of each day's occurrences, exceeds all that we ever before imagined of the great Lord Cardinal's state.

The following is an instance of despatches which correct and modify the commonly received narrative. Queen Elizabeth died without any very apparent or known disease, suffering much from distress of mind and weakness of body.

It is generally believed that her physical powers were gradually failing under the cares of a long reign and the "*tædium vitæ*" which so often assails old age.

Scaramelli's letters, giving an account of his interviews with Queen Elizabeth and her death.

But the letters of the Secretary Scaramelli whose mission to England has already been mentioned, prove that six weeks before her death she was in all the vigour of a green old age. He does not describe the scene at the Countess of Nottingham's death bed, but from about that time the Queen's illness dates. The Secretary attributes her seizure to indignation at the ambitious designs of Arabella Stuart, whom he calls "*omicida della Regina*," and to this he considers all other causes of mental distress as merely secondary.

Something which then occurred so violently agitated the Queen, as to bring on one of those acute liver attacks which are rare in England, but are a common result of extreme agitation amongst the more susceptible temperaments and weaker constitutions of the south.

The whole of the correspondence is extremely striking, but I venture to transcribe only the envoy's first letter, which gives an account of his interview with the Queen; besides its other merits, it is perhaps almost the only letter of sufficient brevity to warrant its insertion in this place as a specimen of the diplomatic correspondence of the Signory:—

A.D. 1602–3, February 19, N.S.

"MOST SERENE PRINCE, London.

"The Queen and the Council being acquainted with your Serenity's resolve and the causes of my coming, both through Paul Pindar, now here, who is intimate with Secretary Cecil, as likewise from what I myself told those members of the Privy Council whom I visited; it having been arranged for my audience to take place on Sunday the 16th inst., one of Her Majesty's fifty gentlemen pensioners came to me on the evening of Saturday, to announce that the Queen had commanded him to conduct me to her on the morrow at 2 p.m.

"At the hour appointed for my departure, the pensioner having passed all the fore part of Sunday with me, I went to Richmond, although the weather was bad; and on arriving there, several gentlemen received me below at the foot of the stairs, making civil

speeches out of respect for your Serenity; and above, I was met by the Lord Chamberlain,[1] who first took me into the "presence chamber, and very soon afterwards into the other where Her Majesty was."

"The Queen wore a dress of silver and white '*Tabi*,' edged with bullion, and rather open in front, so as to display the throat, enriched with pearls and rubies midway down the breast[2]; the swell[3] of her gown was much greater than is the fashion in France, and descended lower; her head-dress being of fair hair, such as nature could not have produced; on her forehead were large pear-shaped pearls, and with frontlets[4] resembling an imperial crown or cap; she made a great display of jewels and pearls, her person even below the boddice[5] being well nigh covered with jewelled golden girdles, and with detached precious stones, such as carbuncles, balass, rubies, and diamonds; and on her wrists in lieu of bracelets were double rows of pearls above the middle size, and although seventy years of age, she bears them well, from nature's great bounty to her, rather than through the aid of art.

"Thus in regal dignity sat the Queen on a chair, raised by two steps on a small square platform, below and around which stood the Archbishop of Canterbury, the metropolitan of this kingdom, the Chancellor, the Treasurer, the Admiral, the Secretary, and the whole Privy Council, all uncovered; the rest of the apartment being filled by lords and ladies, and by the ball musicians,[6] who had played until my entry; whereupon, the Queen stood up, and I advancing with the due obeisances, on reaching the platform, was in the act of kneeling on the first step to kiss her garment,[7] but this Her Majesty would not permit, and with both her hands, well nigh raised me, giving me the right, which I in fact kissed, and saying simultaneously, 'Welcome to England, Mr. Secretary; it is high 'time for the Republic to send to see a Queen who on every occa-'sion has done it so much honor.'

"I then made a slight retrograde movement, and adapting my discourse to the greeting she had given me, said in substance that

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[1] Thomas, Lord Howard of Walden, created Earl of Suffolk by James I., July 21st 1603.

[2] "Cinta di perle et di rubini fino a mezzo il petto."

[3] "*Gonfiezza.*" [4] "*Archi.*" [5] "*Traversa.*"

[6] "Musici da ballo." [7] "Per basciarle la veste."

141052

during a long course of years, a variety of accidents had prevented the verbal announcement through any special envoy, of that great affection and observance borne by the Republic towards Her Majesty individually; and of the vast esteem in which the Signory held this her most ample and noble kingdom; but that notwithstanding the lapse of so long a period, and the passage to another world of so many of ourselves,[1] yet had there not passed away from the Republic, who is always the same, that most ardent desire to do what was agreeable to Her Majesty, towards whom the State maintained that fullness of affection with which it has ever loved and revered her, and been ever anxious for her life and prosperity; that should she on all occasions have honoured the Republic, this she did in acknowledgment of its constant good will; and that in like manner as your Serenity evinced reciprocity, so would I fain have it in my power adequately to express your gratitude and sense of the obligation; but at any rate I should give her an opportunity of now proving in effect through her great justice, all that her own lips had so courteously announced to me.

"Before going further, however, I said that in execution of the first clause in my commission, I congratulated myself in your Serenity's name on the perfect health in which, by God's grace, I found her, vowing that the entire Republic wished her the greatest possible happiness and contentment.

"Although I made a full stop at the close of this compliment, the Queen vouchsafed it no reply; so I proceeded to business, and after presenting my credentials[2] stated briefly the excellent treatment received by Her Majesty's subjects throughout your Serenity's territories; and on the other hand, the grievous excesses perpetrated by English corsairs, I expatiated on the important losses incurred by Venetian subjects within the last few years, saying how much the Signory had at heart the speedy restitution of the plunder by Her Majesty's order, concluding by a remark on the consequences of mutual misunderstanding, and expressing hopes that the world might see the result of this mission appointed by your Serenity on such just accounts.

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[1] "Et sia passata anco gran parte di noi stessi." This sounds ominous.

[2] These credentials, besides alluding to acts of piracy committed by Englishmen in general, made especial mention of one William Pierce, of Plymouth, who in the neighbourhood of Zante had captured the galleon "*Venier.*"

"The Queen, who held your Serenity's letter in her hand, then gave it to the Secretary, who, having opened it, returned it to her; whereupon she sat down and read it through; after which, again standing up, and again giving the letter to the secretary, whereas until then her countenance had been placid and well-nigh smiling, it suddenly became rather more grave, and she spoke as follows:—

"'I cannot but feel deeply that throughout the forty-four years 'of my reign the Republic has never made itself known to me, save 'by demands; and for the rest, whether my affairs were prosperous 'or adverse, never did the State ever give any sign of holding me 'and this kingdom in such account as that wherein she holds 'other princes and potentates. I am not indeed aware that my 'being of this sex can have degraded me, for this my sex has 'committed no fault, nor can it injure those who treat me as 'other sovereigns, (to whom the Signory sends her ambassadors,) 'are treated; but I well know, and with this I in part excuse the 'Signory, that throughout the many debates held on this subject 'she could not obtain permission from certain powers.

"'For all this I will not be discourteous with her; but, with 'regard to the affair in question, I must tell you that this 'kingdom's population is not so small as not to contain rascals and 'ribalds; though as the matter concerns my own subjects I will 'appoint commissioners to confer with you and report to me, and 'will do as much as I possibly can to give satisfaction to that 'most serene Republic, for I do not choose to be discourteous.'

"She then assumed a listening attitude, and, in reply, I said,—

"'Madam, I am glad your Majesty mentioned having worthily 'reigned over this your most ample realm during 44 years, 'as it proves you no novice in the affairs of this world, and aware 'that all sovereigns regulate themselves according to circumstances, 'so I will say no more about your proposition, save that the 'Republic of Venice, a power, by the grace of God, great and free, 'although it proceed with great respect towards those to whom 'such is due; yet has the State never been accustomed to ask per-'mission for its resolves of any sovereign in the world, either 'spiritual or temporal.'

"Her Majesty contented herself with the truth of this reply, and then remained almost always laughing, still standing, until my departure, before which I added that since for the thorough comprehension of my business she meant to appoint me com-

missioners, I besought her to do so without delay, and to remember that services are by so much the more acceptable, inasmuch as they are rendered easily and generously.

"To this the Queen said, 'I will do it and let you know; but 'am not sure whether I spoke well in this Italian tongue, though 'I think I did, and that I have not forgotten it, for I learnt it as a 'girl;' and then graciously offering me again her hand to kiss, she said in conclusion precisely thus:—

" 'For the present I will not detain your lordship any longer.'

" Whereupon I took leave, and returned to London on that same evening by night.

" Then this morning Her Majesty sent me word that she had appointed the admiral, the secretary, and the counsellor, Edward Wotton, to hear my demands and report them to her; and shortly afterwards, they themselves sent to me saying that if convenient to me, the conference should take place to-morrow afternoon in the house of the Lord Admiral, to which I readily consented, and thus will it be, and of the result, the principal parties concerned, shall be acquainted in due time."

*The position of the Secretary in this dialogue is sufficiently embarrassing.* There is no doubt that the deference of the Venetian Government for the Pope and for the King of Spain had prevented their keeping up their diplomatic relations with Elizabeth, and the only possible excuse to her for this was the constraint which these powerful and overbearing neighbours imposed; but the Secretary is obliged to disclaim this apology in order to save the dignity of the Republic. Elizabeth knew exactly how matters stood; she had long ago told one of the many Venetian travellers to whom she had already addressed her complaints on this subject, that she well knew the cause of the Republic's neglect was "that old man," "meaning," he says, "his Holiness," who was in fact a few years younger than herself. But the Queen, with remarkable forbearance and dignity, waived the further discussion of this unmanageable point. When the Secretary next applied for an audience, she declined seeing him till all matters in dispute were amicably settled and she had none but agreeable topics to

dwell on. But that time never came. Soon a vague report of the Queen's illness was spread abroad, and then the alarming certainty of it was averred beyond the possibility of doubt.

The letters which follow are very interesting. Some are written in duplicate, on strips of paper to be smuggled across the water as they can; for when the Queen's danger could not be concealed the ports were closed. The various rumours; the alarm of the citizens; the supposed movements and the actual arrests of the Roman Catholics; the difficulty of maintaining order in a town "scarcely less than Paris and incredibly ill fortified;" the interview of the Council with the dying Queen; her suggestion in favour of the King of Scots; the decision of the Council and the departure of Baron Gree (Sir R. Carey), for Scotland, when all is over; the Queen's own directions respecting her person after death; the details of the Court ceremonies previous to interment; the attempts made by some of the Roman Catholics to claim the deceased as a co-religionist, from her dying expressions of regret, and the ornaments of her chapel when alive,—all these, and many more such particulars, are told with an awe-struck earnestness which almost makes the reader a contemporary witness, as the writer of the despatch was, of the events which marked the last scene of the great Queen's life.

Period embraced by the present volume.

The period to which the last-mentioned letters relate will not be reached in the present volume, which concludes with the death of Henry VII. in the year 1509.

Summary of the preliminary tables.

In the first instance I have given the following tables:—

1. Chronological view of the classification of the documents in the Venetian archives most interesting to the student of general history; who must, nevertheless, bear in mind that this summary has no pretension to be a catalogue.
2. List of Venetian ambassadors accredited to England, together with a numerical and chronological table of the despatches written by them from thence, and

preserved in the archives from the year 1554, (previously to which date no despatch of theirs is to be found in the national collection,) to 1787, when the series closes. I also subjoin a list of the reports of England by Venetian ambassadors which now exist at the Frari.

3. List of the Venetian consuls in England from the year 1427 to 1568.
4. List of captains of the Flanders galleys from 1317 to 1533.
5 and 6. Lists of goods conveyed between England and Venice by the Flanders galleys.
7. List of English and Scotch diplomatic agents accredited to the Republic from 1340 to 1797.
8. List of English consuls at Venice.
9. Chronological table of Marin Sanuto's diaries.
10. To these tables is subjoined a specimen of an ancient calendar.

Conclusion.

Before concluding these prefatory observations, I am anxious to offer my thanks to many from whom I have received assistance, and to whom I have incurred a long arrear of obligation.

To his Excellency the Chevalier de Toggenburg, Imperial Lieutenant in the Venetian Provinces, and all the members of the Imperial Government to whom I have had occasion to apply, my acknowledgments are due for the most courteous and obliging attention.

I am indebted to Count Girolamo Dandolo, the director general of the archives of the kingdom, for facilities of every sort, and also for procuring copies of original papers, both at Venice and Mantua, and for much very valuable information.

All the officers dependent on him have rendered me every possible assistance in my researches. To one of them, the Cavalier Toderini, I have already expressed my obligation for particulars concerning the Mantuan archives. To another, the Signor Luigi Pasini, I am also much beholden for most diligent aid; nor can I omit to mention

gratefully, the patient, intelligent labour whereby one of the assistants, Luigi Guadagnin, has greatly helped my researches.

The librarian of St. Mark's, the Abbate Giuseppe Valentinelli, the vice-librarian, Giovanni Veludo, and the coadjutor, Giovanni Battista Lorenzi, have on every occasion given me the most cordial and efficient help. To the latter I am indebted for all the assistance that the most active friendship, backed by profound antiquarian knowledge, could afford.

To Sorley Count MacDonnell, whose translation of the Diary of an Austrian Secretary of Legation at the Court of Czar Peter the Great, has recently proved his thorough acquaintance with modern Latin, I am indebted for every assistance that could possibly be rendered by the zeal of an able and patient investigator, and a sincere friend. During upwards of a year, he has steadily afforded me the utmost aid of his critical acumen and antiquarian skill, which were particularly valuable in deciphering the crabbed barbarisms of mediæval Latinity; and many a document which would otherwise have escaped my notice is by his care comprised in this calendar.

To the Signor Cesare Foucard, who at the time I refer to was employed in the Venetian archives, I am obliged for the discovery of the letters at Cividale, in the Friuli, and to Count Pietro di Montereale Mantica, of Pordenone, for a copy of the letter of Richard Dereham, and also for an original bill of exchange protested in Lombard Street on the 4th of November 1475; and lastly, I am greatly obliged to my friend Alessandro Marcello (late Podestà of Venice), for procuring for me from the Signor Osio, the director of the Milan archives, and at that time a servant of the Imperial Government, copies of the letters relating to Henry VI. and Edward IV. in 1460 and 1461, a period of which few epistolary remains are to be found, as likewise of the correspondence between the Dukes of Milan and later English sovereigns. My special thanks are due to the

above-named gentlemen, but I should be wanting in gratitude if I failed to add that on every occasion I have experienced from all with whom my employment has brought me into contact the kindest sympathy and co-operation.

R. B.

Venice,
1st January 1864.

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Since the foregoing pages were printed, I have heard from a learned fellow labourer that he does not consider the phrase "fanno nuovi pensieri," quoted at p. xc, as indisputably indicating new matrimonial projects of Henry VIII. The passage in the original stands thus:—

(A.D. 1510, July 15, Venice.) "Di Ser Andrea Badoer orator nostro "in Ingalterra, date a Londra adì 8 Zugno."

. . . . "Item la Raina a fata una mole, con gran dolor di tutti: fanno "nuovi pensieri."

The plural verb with the suppressed nominative has exactly the force of the French "on." For my own part, I entertain no doubt but that the writer meant to imply that vague whispers were abroad on the subject of a divorce, to which he did not choose to give a more distinct expression.

The main objection to this interpretation, namely, that in the year 1510 it was premature to despair of Catherine's giving birth to a son, is scarcely less applicable to the following entry in the year 1514, where the meaning is unmistakable.

(A.D. 1514, September 1, Venice.) "Di Roma di Ser Vetor Lipomano, "di 28". [August], ". . . . . Si dize etiam che il Re "d'Ingalterra vol lassar la moglie ch'el ha, fia dil Re di Spagna, qual "fò moglie di suo fradello, per non poter haver con lei alcuna heredità, "et vol tuor per moglie una fia del Duca di Barbon (*sic*) Francese."

Again, "E zonto lettere di Franza dalla corte di 14" [August] "al "suo orator." . . . . "Si dize che il Re d'Ingalterra . . . . vol "desfar le nozze, e dal Papa otegnirà quello che vuol; come fè etiam "Franza con Papa Julio."

The same learned historian above alluded to is puzzled to make out who the lady designated as the daughter of the Duke of Bourbon could be. It is out of my province as calendarer to offer any solution of this difficulty, but I may perhaps be allowed to suggest that Lippomano or Sanuto himself may possibly have taken a *sister* for a *daughter*. Be this as it may, the interest of the passage consists in the proof it affords that so early as 1514 politicians were speculating on Henry's taking a new wife, and their guess as to who that wife would be, is, I conceive, comparatively immaterial.

## TABLE No. 1.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE of some of the principal DOCUMENTS belonging to the CHIEF MAGISTRACIES, BOARDS, and COUNCILS of the REPUBLIC, and now preserved at the "FRARI," which contain the Materials for General History.

| Progressive Number of the various Classes. | Magistracy. | Title and entire Amount of the Registers, Files, and Portfolios; with Specification of the Material on which written. | Period embraced. From the Year | Period embraced. To the Year | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Minor Council | Liber Comunis sive Plegiorum: Register, 1, paper | 1223 | 1228 and 1253 | This volume, containing 210 written pages, small folio, has 705 distinct entries or paragraphs, of which No. 271 alone relates to England. |
| 2 | Grand Council | Decrees: Registers, 72, parchment | 1232 | 1793 | "*Files*" are original drafts, minutes, memoranda, letters, &c., *half-bound*, but which had been originally FILED. |
| | | Files, 96, paper | 1507 | 1797 | |
| 3 | Senate | Pacta: Registers, 8, parchment | 883 May | 1473 Sept. | The 8 registers do not contain any treaty concerning England; but in the Portfolios there are several to which she was a party. |
| | | Files, 49, paper | 1200 | 1764 | |
| 4 | „ | Commemoriali: Registers, 33, parchment | 1295 | 1787 10 Sept. | Register No. 30 is on paper. |
| 5 | „ | Miscellaneous Decrees ("Misti"): Registers, 39, parchment | 1332 4 March | 1421 Feb. | Of 14 other volumes of similar decrees from the year 1293 to the close of 1331, the indexes alone are now extant; and those same indexes show that 7 other volumes of the MISTI, from 1422 to 1440, have also disappeared. There are also 5 other registers marked with the letters from A. to F., from the year 1345 to 1397. |
| 6 | „ | "Secreta" (Privy Chamber): Decrees (Deliberazioni): Registers, 135, parchment | 1401 10 April | 1630 30 June | |
| | | Files, 143, paper | 1510 1 March | 1630 31 Aug. | |

| Progressive Number of the various Classes. | Magistracy. | Title and entire Amount of the Registers, Files and Portfolios; with Specification of the Material on which written. | Period embraced. From the Year | Period embraced. To the Year | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | Senate - | Courts ("Corti Secreta"): | | | The three classes of the Senate's decrees "*Misti*," "*Secreta*," and "*Corti*," may be considered one series. |
| | | Decrees (Deliberazioni); | | | |
| | | Registers, 163, parchment - | 1630 | 1787 | |
| | | | 6 Sept. | 23 Feb. | |
| | | Files, 442, paper - - | „ | 1797 | |
| | | | | 29 April | |
| 8 | „ | Governors ("Rettori") Decrees: | | | |
| | | Registers, 173, parchment - | 1630 | 1795 | |
| | | | 3 Sept. | 20 Feb. | |
| | | Files, 424, paper - - | „ | 1797 | |
| | | | | 26 April | |
| 9 | „ | Land ("Terra") Decrees: | | | |
| | | Registers, 411, parchment - | 1440 | 1788 | |
| | | Files, 3128, paper - - | October | February | |
| | | | 1545 | 1797 | |
| | | | March | April | |
| 10 | „ | Sea ("Mar") Decrees: | | | In these volumes, from 1440 to 1544, there are various notices of the "Cottimo di Londra," that is to say, the "London Factory" or Consulate. |
| | | Registers, 247, parchment - | 1440 | 1796 | |
| | | Files, 1286, paper - - | October | April | |
| | | | 1545 | 1797 | |
| | | | March | April | |
| 11 | „ | Constantinople (Decrees concerning): | | | |
| | | Registers, 62, parchment - | 1556 | 1796 | |
| | | | 6 March | 18 Feb. | |
| 12 | „ | Rome (decrees in ordinary concerning): | | | |
| | | Registers, 121, parchment - | 1560 | 1796 | |
| | | | March | 8 Nov. | |
| | | Files, 172, paper - | 1560 | 1796 | |
| 13 | „ | Rome, Decrees concerning, entitled "Expulsis," because the relatives of all Venetian churchmen were expelled from the Republic's Councils during their discussion: | | | |
| | | Registers, 35, parchment - | 1684 | 1796 | |
| | | | 6 Oct. | | |
| | | Files, 158, paper - - | 1674 | 1796 | |
| | | | March | | |
| 14 | „ | Rome, ecclesiastical matters: | | | |
| | | Files, 32, paper - - | 1784 | 1796 | |
| 15 | „ | Documents communicated to the Senate by the Council of Ten, and entitled "Communicate Consiglio X^ci": | | | |
| | | Files, 32, paper - - | 1582 | 1787 | |
| | | | 20 March | | |
| 16 | „ | Commissions: | | | |
| | | Files, 26, paper - - | 1627 | 1794 | |
| 17 | „ | England, despatches from: | | | |
| | | Files, 134, paper - - | 1554 | 1787 | |
| | | | 12 June | 30 June. | |

| Progressive Number of the various Classes | Magistracy. | Title and entire Amount of the Registers, Files, and Portfolios; with Specification of the Material on which written. | Period embraced. | | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | From the Year | To the Year | |
| 18 | Senate - | Germany, despatches from: Files, 292, paper - - | 1541 10 Nov. | 1787 30 Feb. | |
| 19 | „ | Constantinople, despatches from: Files, 235, paper - - | 1527 2 Oct. | 1793 26 May. | |
| 20 | „ | Spain, despatches from: Files, 186, paper - - | 1554 16 March | 1787 24 April. | |
| 21 | „ | France, despatches from: Files, 267, paper - - | 1554 11 May | 1788 30 June. | |
| 22 | „ | United Provinces and Münster, despatches from: Files, 64, paper - - | 1643 31 July | 1744 16 Feb. | |
| 23 | „ | Poland, despatches from: Files, 18, paper - - | 1574 5 Jan. | 1718 8 Nov. | |
| 24 | „ | Switzerland, Monaco, and the Valtellina, despatches from: Files, 92, paper - - | 1569 9 Nov. | 1762 3 Sept. | |
| 25 | „ | Rome, despatches from: Files, 205, paper - - | 1566 | 1693 May. | |
| 26 | „ | Savoy, Turin, despatches from: Files, 103, paper - - | 1566 January | 1787 April. | |
| 27 | „ | Naples, despatches from: Files, 166, paper - - | 1570 September | 1797 | |
| 28 | „ | Florence, despatches from: Files, 78, paper - - | 1589 3 May | 1777 1 May. | |
| 29 | „ | Genoa, despatches from: Files, 30, paper - - | 1627 6 March | 1785 February. | There are also other despatches addressed to the Senate by the Governors on the mainland, and by the Proveditors General in Dalmatia, Istria, Corfù, Zante and Cephalonia, of various dates. |
| 30 | „ | Mantua, despatches from: Files, 21, paper - - | 1613 6 May | 1647 13 Feb. | |
| 31 | „ | Modena, despatches from: Files, 3, paper - - | 1642 August | 1643 | |
| 32 | „ | Milan, despatches from: Files, 231, paper - - | 1569 | 1788 30 Feb. | |

| Progressive Number of the various Classes. | Magistracy. | Title and entire Amount of the Registers, Files, and Portfolios; with Specification of the Material on which written. | Period embraced. From the Year | Period embraced. To the Year | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 33 | College sive Cabinet - | Order Books (Notatorie): | | | There is likewise a second epistolary series belonging to the Cabinet, comprising letters, replies, addresses, petitions, commissions, depositions, &c., from the year 1554 to 1797. |
| | | Registers, 225, parchment | 1327 | 1796 27 Feb. | |
| | | Files, 627, paper - - | 1549 | 1627 | |
| | | Secret letters: | | | |
| 34 | „ | Registers, 2, parchment - | 1308 16 Sept. | 1310 15 July. | |
| | | Files, 57, paper - - | 1436 2 Jan. | 1666 22 Jan. | |
| 35 | „ | Letters: | | | |
| | | Files, 110, paper - - | 1521 July. | 1786 | |
| 36 | „ | Statements *in ordinary*, made to the College by the diplomatic agents of foreign Potentates, and entitled "Esposizioni Principi." | | | For the history of diplomacy these statements, ordinary and extraordinary, are very valuable, as they contain the precise words uttered by all negotiators, whose speeches, gesture, and tone of voice, were alike noted at the moment in short-hand by the Cabinet Secretaries, stationed there for that especial purpose. |
| | | Registers, 127, parchment - | 1541 4 Jan. | 1795 27 Feb. | |
| | | Files, 179, paper - - | 1541 4 Jan. | 1797 May. | |
| 37 | „ | Statements as above *extraordinary*, relating to the court of Rome, and entitled "Esposizioni Roma." | | | |
| | | Registers, 56, parchment - | 1567 | 1794 | |
| 38 | „ | Reports (Relazioni) of England: File, 1, paper; one single report, that of Daniele Barbaro, is on parchment - - | 1531 | 1763 | Containing 13 reports by various Venetian ambassadors. |
| 39 | „ | Germany, reports: | | | Number of reports of ambassadors 7 |
| | | Files, 1, paper - - | 1533 | 1736, 15 Sept. | |
| 40 | „ | France, reports: | | | |
| | | Files, 5, paper - - | 1535 | 1791, 18 March. | „ 42 |
| 41 | „ | Italy, reports: | | | |
| | | Files, 10 paper - - | 1533 | 1797 | „ 74 |
| 42 | „ | Low Countries, Poland, Portugal, Consuls at Aleppo and in Syria, reports: | | | |
| | | Files, 1, paper - - | 1574 | 1611 | „ 15 |
| 43 | „ | Spain, reports: | | | |
| | | Files, 4, paper - | 1559 | 1754, 20 Feb. | „ 38 |
| | | | | | In addition to the foregoing reports of foreign countries, there are others made by the Venetian governors on the mainland and in Dalmatia, of the provinces committed to their charge. |

| Progressive Number of the various Classes. | Magistracy. | Title and entire Amount of the Registers, Files, and Portfolios; with Specification of the Material on which written. | Period embraced. | | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | From the Year | To the Year | |
| 44 | Council of Ten. | Miscellaneous Acts (Misti): | | | |
| | | Registers, 45, parchment - | 1300, 13 Dec. | 1524, 25 Feb. | |
| | | Files, 55, paper - - | 1477, 5 March. | „ | |
| 45 | „ | Decrees in Ordinary (Parti Comuni): | | | |
| | | Registers, 241, parchment - | 1525, 3 March. | 1791, 29 Feb. | |
| | | Portfolios, 1,346, paper - | „ | 1797, April. | |
| 46 | „ | Secret Decrees (Parti Secrete): | | | |
| | | Files, 71, paper - - | 1525, 3 March. | 1797, 1 May. | |
| 47 | „ | Criminal Prosecutions ("Criminali"): | | | |
| | | Registers, 206, parchment - | 1502, 4 Oct. | 1796, 26 Feb. | |
| | | Files, 160, paper - - | „ | 1797, 28 April. | |
| 48 | „ | Criminal Trials (Processi Criminali): | | | |
| | | Portfolios, 45, paper - | 1607 | 1796 | The trial or deposition of the earliest date in these 45 portfolios, relates to the attempt made on the life of the famous Servite Fra Paolo Sarpi, A. D. 1607, 5 October. |
| 49 | „ | Proclamations: | | | |
| | | Portfolios, 59, paper - | 1457, 6 April. | 1797 | |
| 50 | „ | Treasurers' accounts; correspondence of Governors; and certificates from them, &c. &c.: | | | These portfolios exist in the chambers of the Inquisitors of State. |
| | | Portfolios, 88, paper - | 1664 | 1796 | |
| 51 | Chiefs of the Council of Ten. | Note Book (Notatorio): | | | |
| | | Registers, 56, paper - | 1478, 5 Nov. | 1787, 28 Feb. | |
| | | Portfolios, 65, paper - | 1542 | 1793 | |
| 52 | „ | Letters: | | | |
| | | Portfolios 67, paper - | 1473 | 1655 | |
| 53 | „ | Secret Letters (Lettere Secrete): | | | |
| | | Portfolios, 369, paper - | 1525 | 1797, May. | |
| 54 | „ | Signed Letters (Lettere Sottoscritte): | | | |
| | | Portfolios, 131, paper - | 1510 | 1793 | |
| 55 | „ | Criminal trials Duchy proper of Venice (Processi criminali dogado): | | | |
| | | Portfolios, 56, paper - | 1630 | 1797 | |

| Progressive Number of the various Classes. | Magistracy. | Title and entire Amount of the Registers, Files, and Portfolios; with Specification of the Material on which written. | Period embraced. From the Year | Period embraced. To the Year | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 56 | Chiefs of the Council of Ten. | Diaries: Registers, 10, paper | 1787 | 1797 | |
| 57 | Inquisitors of State. | Letters written by the Tribunal to Venetian ministers at foreign courts; and which on their return were given back to the Inquisitors. Files, 18, paper | 1617 | 1795 | |
| 58 | „ | Twenty bundles, marked "*Communicate*," all of the 17th or 18th century, being in great part communications from the Chiefs of the Ten to the Tribunal of the Inquisitors of State. There are also private documents seized apparently by the Ten in the course of domiciliary visits, and subsequently transmitted to the Inquisitors | — | — | Some account of these State Papers was published by the Abbate Cadorin in the year 1847. The student should be apprized that if he desires to inspect the Archives of the Council of Ten and of the Inquisitors, he must apply, for a special permission to do so, to the Governor of Venice, or to the Director of the Archives. In my own case this permission was most readily and courteously granted. As the Council of Ten and the Inquisition took cognizance of crimes against morality generally, and especially of all which from their magnitude or scandalousness it was desirable to evoke from the common tribunals, abundance of matter is to be found in their Records, which belongs to the class of "*Oggetti riservati.*" |
| 58 | „ | Governors, Bassano, Belluno, Bergamo, Brescia, Candia, Chioggia, Conegliano, Corfu, Crema, Dalmatia and Albania, Padova, Palma, Raspo, Salo, Treviso, Verona, Vicenza, Udine, Veglia: Portfolios, and files, 50, paper | various periods. | | |
| 59 | „ | Foreigners: Files, 28, paper | 1790 | 1797 | |
| 60 | „ | Letters of Public Representatives from the main land and Dalmatia: Sundry files, paper | various periods. | | |
| 61 | „ | Letters written to the Inquisitors by ambasadors, residents, consuls, and other Venetian representatives abroad. | 1585 | 1796 | |
| 62 | „ | Constantinople: Files, 22 | 1585 | 1795 | |
| 63 | „ | Durazzo: File, 1 | 1719 | 1721 | |
| 64 | „ | Ferrara: File, 1 | 1621 | 1742 | |
| 65 | „ | Florence: Files, 2 | 1585 | 1733 | |
| 66 | „ | Genoa: Files, 2 | 1610 | 1796 | |

| Progressive Number of the various Classes. | Magistracy. | Title and entire Amount of the Registers, Files, and Portfolios; with Specification of the Material on which written. | Period embraced. From the Year | Period embraced. To the Year | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 67 | Inquisitors of State. | The Hague: Files, 4 | 1617 | 1761 | |
| 68 | „ | Larizza: Files, 1 | 1668 | downwards. | |
| 69 | „ | Leghorn: Files, 1 | 1681 | 1774 | |
| 70 | „ | London: Files, 2 | 1611 | 1797 | |
| 71 | „ | Mantua: Files, 1 | 1610 | 1769 | |
| 72 | „ | Marseilles: Files, 1 | 1765 | 1766 | |
| 73 | „ | Malta: Files, 1 | 1645 | 1766 | |
| 74 | „ | Milan: Files 13 | 1589 | 1794 | |
| 75 | „ | Modena and Monaco: Files, 2 | 1643 | 1751 | |
| 76 | „ | Naples: Files, 13 | 1587 | 1799 | |
| 77 | „ | Otranto: Files, 1 | 1725 | 1728 | |
| 78 | „ | Paris: Files, 7 | 1586 | 1790 | |
| 79 | „ | Poland: Files, 1 | 1586 | 1754 | |
| 80 | „ | Pesaro, Parma, St. Petersburg, Piacenza, and Pisa. File, 1 | 1610 | 1787 | |
| 81 | „ | Rimini: Files, 1 | 1670 | 1775 | |
| 82 | „ | Rome: Files, 15 | 1585 | 1783 | |
| 83 | „ | Spain: Files, 4 | 1586 | 1790 | |
| 84 | „ | Smyrna, Syria, Switzerland, Tenedos: Files 1 | 1612 | 1717 | |
| 85 | „ | Trieste: Files, 1 | 1731 | 1796 | |
| 86 | „ | Turin: Files, 2 | 1586 | 1790 | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 87 | Inquisitors of State. | Vienna: Files, 14 - - - | 1576 | 1794 | |
| 88 | „ | Letters written to the Inquisitors by the Governors on the mainland and in the colonies: Files, 79, paper - - | 1603 | 1797 | |
| 89 | „ | Letters written to the Inquisitors by various Governors, and unanswered: Files, 49, paper - - | 1772 | 1796 | |
| 90 | „ | Private letters from individuals from Verona, &c., and other places: Files, 28, paper | 1770 | downwards. | |
| 91 | „ | Letters written to the Inquisitors by various Governors on the mainland, and which remained unanswered: Various files - - | various | periods. | |
| 92 | „ | Trials and criminal papers: Files, 43 | 1600 | 1797 | |
| 92 | „ | Various crimes: Bundles, 100 - | various | periods. | |
| 93 | „ | Various political crimes Bundles, 25 - - - | 1700 | downwards. | |
| 94 | „ | Other trials: Bundles, 60 - - - | 1700 | „ | |
| 95 | „ | Arts and trades: Bundles, 27 - - | 1624 | „ | |
| 96 | „ | Original letters from the Inquisitors to Venetian Governors on the mainland and in the colonies, and to diplomatic agents abroad: Bundles, 303 - - | 1698 | 1797 | In the Archives of the Inquisitors there are also several miscellaneous bundles and detached papers. |
| 97 | Magistrates for the Suppression of Blasphemy. | Trials: Portfolios, 47 - - | 1688 | 1797 | And various Registers. |
| 98 | Inquisition (Romish). | Trials: Portfolios, 14 - - | 1541 | 1558 | |
| 99 | Criminal Court of the Forty. | Registers, 6, parchment - | 1347 23 July | 1514 29 July | In the Archives of the Criminal Court of the Forty there are also series of volumes, files, &c. |
| 100 | Lords of the Night-watch for Criminal Offences. | Registers, 13, parchment - | 1289 | 1517 | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 101 | Proveditors for the Board of Health. | Portfolios, files, registers, 1,009 - - - | various periods. | | |
| 102 | Board of Trade (V. Savij alla Mercanzia). | Fundamental statutes (capitolari) Registers, 15, parchment - | 1329 | 1719 | The Archives of the Board of Trade (Cinque Savij alla Mercanzia) likewise contain other Registers and bundles, relating to a variety of commercial matters, consuls, &c. &c. |
| 103 | „ | Alphabetical summaries (epiloghi alfabetici) from A to Z: Registers, 22, paper - | various periods. | | |
| 104 | „ | Decrees: Registers, 23, paper - | 1707 | 1797 | |
| | | Various bundles - | various periods. | | |
| 105 | „ | Replies or memorials addressed to the Senate: Registers, 43, paper - | 1571 | 1732 | |
| 106 | „ | Writings (scritture) addressed to the Senate: Registers, 29, paper - | 1744 | 1797 | |
| 107 | „ | Awards: Registers, 33 - - | 1627 | 1751 | |
| 108 | Salt office (Provveditori al sal.) | (Provveditori al sal) fundamental statutes (capitolar) Register, 1, parchment - | 1277 | 1792 | The Archives of the salt office. ("Provveditori al sal") contain a multitude of more modern memorials under various denominations. |
| 109 | „ | Summary laws of the salt office: Register, 1, parchment - | 1300 | 1500 | From the year 1480 (1 July), until 1555 (22 March), the Venetian Government make its payments to Gian Bellini Vivarini, and Titian, for the most part through the salt office, whose Archives throw much light on the history of Venetian art and science; especially the order books, one of which, date 27 February 1514—15, contains a voucher for the payment to a painter called *Vetor* (the son of Mathio then painting in the Grand Council Hall with Gian Bellini), of eight ducats on account. |
| 110 | „ | Order books (notatorii): Registers, 36, parchment and paper - - Portfolios, 77, paper | 1482 | 1633 | |
| 111 | „ | College of the salt office: Registers, 11, parchment - | 1411 | 1624 | |
| 112 | „ | Red book (libro rosso): Register, 1, parchment - | 1485 | 1493 | |
| 113 | „ | Magistracy: Register, 1, parchment - | 1460 | 1515 | |
| 114 | „ | Collection of laws: Register, 1, paper - - | 1500 | downwards. | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 115 | Cancelleria Ducale. | Grazie e privilegi, vol. i. | 1374 | 1425 | Parchment. |
| | | „ „ „ „ ii. | 1425 | 1552 | |
| | | „ „ „ „ iii. | 1551 | 1627 | |
| 116 | Cancelleria Secreta. | Cerimoniali Palace, six volumes: | 1464 | 1797 | |
| 117 | Procuratia de Supra. | St. Mark's Church, 1 vol. Ducal Palace of St. Mark's, composed by Gio. Verdura in Nov. 1658: | | | |
| 1 | Letters of Sovereigns. (College, Section III. "Secreta.") | Germany: Portfolios, 2, paper - | 1563 | 1639 | *In this collection is a letter from the Emperor Rodolph II., date Prague 13 May 1580, to Doge da Ponte, in favor of Thomas afterwards Lord Arundel of Wardour.* |
| 2 | „ | House of Austria: Portfolios, 4, paper - | 1536 | 1797 | |
| 3 | „ | Electors of the Empire: Portfolios, 2, paper - | 1647 | 1796 | |
| 4 | „ | Bishops of Trent: Portfolios, 2, paper - | 1623 | 1796 | |
| 5 | „ | Grand Masters of Malta: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1647 | 1795 | |
| 6 | „ | Bohemia, Hungary, Transylvania, Sweden, Muscovy, Moldavia, Wallachia, Japan. Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1567 | 1689 | |
| 7 | „ | Czar of Muscovy: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1741 | 1796 | |
| 8 | „ | Persia, Prussia, Denmark, Sweden: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1637 | 1780 | |
| 9 | „ | Poland: Portfolios, 2, paper - | 1569 | 1772 | |
| 10 | „ | Free towns: Portfolios, 2, paper - | 1517 | 1687 | |
| 11 | „ | England:* Portfolios, 2, paper - | 1570 | 1796 | |

*The letters in this collection addressed to the Doges of Venice by British Sovereigns, and members of the royal family, are upwards of 200; in date from the 29 June 1510, to 10 January 1796. There is also a curious document signed by Charles Dudley, the descendant of the Earl of Leicester. It is dated Bologna, 21 February 1671. The writer styling himself "Carlo Dudley per la gracia di Dio Duca di Northumbria et del Sacro Romano Impero; Conte di Woruik e di Licester et Pari d'Inghilterra," confers the title of Marquis on a Veronese, by name Ottavio Dionisio. This Charles Dudley seems to have been the son of Sir Robert Dudley by Miss Southwell.

| Progressive Number of the various Classes. | Magistracy. | Title and entire Amount of the Registers, Files, and Portfolios; with Specification of the Material on which written. | Period embraced. | | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | From the Year | To the Year | |
| 12 | Letters of Sovereigns. (College, Section III. "Secreta.") | Kings and Queens of Spain: Portfolios, 3, paper - | 1568 | 1795 | |
| 13 | „ | Low Countries, Flanders: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1571 | 1630 | |
| 14 | „ | Naples, Sicily, Malta: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1515 | 1624 | |
| 15 | „ | Portugal, Naples, Sardinia: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1716 | 1785 | |
| 16 | „ | Naples: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1777 | 1793 | |
| 17 | „ | Portugal: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1777 | 1795 | |
| 18 | „ | Dukes of Savoy and Lorraine: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1568 | 1737 | |
| 19 | „ | Milan: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1516 | 1639 | |
| 20 | „ | Ferrara, Modena: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1516 | 1611 | |
| 21 | „ | Dukes of Urbino: Portfolio, 1 paper - | 1515 | 1627 | |
| 22 | „ | Grand Duke of Tuscany and House of Medici: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1567 | 1623 | |
| 23 | „ | Grand Duke of Tuscany: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1625 | 1791 | |
| 24 | „ | Duke of Parma: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1570 | 1731 | |
| 25 | „ | Grisons: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1535 | 1611 | |
| 26 | „ | Grisons and Switzers: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1581 | 1640 | |
| 27 | „ | Swiss Cantons, S. Gallo, and Gray Leagues: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1646 | 1690 | |
| 28 | „ | Free Towns, Swiss Cantons, and Gray Leagues: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1700 | 1782 | |
| 29 | „ | Princes of France and Lorraine: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1516 | 1623 | |
| 30 | „ | Kings of France: Portfolio, 6, paper - | 1515 | 1773 | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 31 | Letters of Sovereigns. (College, Section III. "Secreta.") | Kings and Republic of France: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1774 | 1795 | |
| 32 | „ | Duke of Mantua and Duke of Gonzago: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1571 | 1623 | |
| 33 | „ | Dukes and Princes of Italy: Portfolios, 2, paper - | 1628 | 1795 | |
| 34 | „ | Princes of Orange, Holland, States General: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1606 | 1796 | |
| 35 | „ | Genoa, Monaco, Mirandola, Lucca, Correggio, Ragusa, Coir, Geneva: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1566 | 1791 | |
| 36 | „ | Dukes and Republics: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1635 | 1640 | |
| 37 | „ | Princes: Portfolio, 3, paper - | 1606 | 1645 | |
| 38 | „ | Rome and Cities of the Church: Portfolio, 1, paper - | 1568 | 1623 | |
| 39 | „ | Patriarchs, bishops, and other ecclesiastics: Portfolios, 3, paper - | 1555 | 1628 | |
| 40 | „ | Cardinals: Portfolios, 25, paper - | 1560 | 1797 | |

## Chronological Series of the Patrician Superintendents of the "*Secreta*," appointed by the Venetian Magistracies.

| Date of the Appointment. | Name and Surname. | Date of Resignation or Death. |
|---|---|---|
| 1601, 17 September | Andrea Morosini | Died in June 1618. His appointment was made by the Council of Ten. See file, No. 27, "Parti Secrete," and the Chevr. de Reumont, "*Della Diplomazia Italiana*," p. 320. |
| 1618 — | Nicolò Contarini | Elected Doge 1630. |
| 1630, 27 Sept. | Girolamo Corner | "Parti Secrete." Date of death or resignation unknown. |
| 163– — | Paolo Morosini | Precise date of appointment unknown. Died on the 20th December 1637. |
| 1637, 29 December | Jacopo Marcello | Appointed by a decree of the Council of Ten. Died 26 December 1650. |
| 1651, 17 March | Battista Nani | Appointed by a decree of the Council of Ten. Died 5 December 1678. |
| 1678, 19 December | Michiele Foscarini | Appointed by a decree of the Council of Ten. (Parti Secrete). Died in 1692. |
| 1692, 10 June | Pietro Garzoni | Appointed by a decree of the Council of Ten (Parti Comuni). Died in 1735. |
| 1735 — | Marco Foscarini | Elected Doge 1762. |
| 1762 — | Girolamo Grimani | Resigned 17 September 1765. |
| 1765 — | Nicolò Donado | Elected by a decree of the Council of Ten. Died in 1775. (See Count Girolamo Dandolo, "La Caduta della Repubblica di Venezia, ed i suoi ultimi cinquant' anni. Studii Storici," pp. 109, 110. (Venezia, 1855.) |
| 1775 — | Francesco Donado | Elected by a decree of the Council of Ten. (See Count Dandolo as above, p. 110.) Displaced 12 May 1797. |

## Chronological Series of the Directors of the Venetian Archives from May 1797 to June 1863.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1797 — | Zorzi dall' Acqua (Director). | Displaced 1804. |
| 1797 — | Giovanni Polacco (Keeper). | |
| 1805 — | Gio. Matteo Balbi. | |
| 1807, March | Carlo Antonio Marin | Died 17 April 1815. (See documents in the Archives.) |
| 1815, 27 December | Giacomo Chiodo | Pensioned 1840. (See documents in the Archives.) |
| 1840, 27 November | Antonio Ninfa Priuli | Pensioned 1847. |
| 1848, 7 February | Fabio Mutinelli | Pensioned 30 April 1861. |
| 1861, 1 May | Count Girolamo Dandolo | Assumed the direction *ad interim* of the Venetian Archives, of which he was formally appointed Director-General by an Imperial decree dated 4 November 1861. |

## TABLE No. 2.

### VENETIAN DIPLOMATIC AGENTS IN ENGLAND in the 14th, 15th, and 16th Centuries.

| Agent's Name or Title. | Date of the Employment. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c. |
|---|---|---|
| GABRIEL DANDOLO - | 1316–1317 | By the miscellaneous Journals of the Senate (*Misti Senato*) it is seen that this ambassador was captain of the Flanders gallies. (See Index, vol. 4, p. 182.) |
| ZUANNE DA LEZZE - | 1319–1321 | Miscellaneous Journals of the Senate (*Misti Senato*), Index, vols. v, p. 124, and vi, p. 79; and Journal of the Grand Council, "Fronesis," pp. 54, 57, 94. |
| PIETRO ZENO and PERONO GIUSTINIANO. | 1321 | Miscellaneous Journals of the Senate (*Misti Senato*), Index, vol. 7, pp. 48, 60. |
| LUCA VALARESSO - | 1369–1370 | Miscellaneous Journals of the Senate (*Misti Senato*), vol. 33, p. 82, tergo, and "*Commemoriali*," vol. 7, p. 125, tergo; registered copy of a missive from Edw. III. to Doge Andrea Contarini, date Westminster, 24 April; also MS. lists of Venetian ambassadors in England, in St. Mark's Library and the Correr Museum, at Venice. |
| CARLO ZENO - - | 1395 | No documentary evidence exists in proof of this embassy, which is, however, attributed to Carlo Zeno, both by his biographer Giacopo Zeno, Bishop of Belluno, and also by the lists of ambassadors in St. Mark's Library and at the Correr Museum. |
| VICE-CAPTAIN OF THE FLANDERS GALLEYS. | 1400 | Miscellaneous Journals of the Senate (*Misti Senato*), vol. 45, p. 8, recto. |
| REV. FATHER GIROLAMO - | 1408 | Miscellaneous Journals of the Senate (*Misti Senato*), 28 and 29 November 1408. |
| ANTONIO BEMBO - - | 1409 | Miscellaneous Journals of the Senate (*Misti Senato*), last day of April 1409. Romanin, vol. 3, p. 391. |
| GIACOMO, VENIER CAPTAIN OF THE FLANDERS GALLEYS - - - | 1491 April | Secret Journals of the Senate (Secreta Senato) vol. 33, p. 85–88. |
| PIETRO CONTARINI and LUCA VALARESSO. | Feb. 10 1496–7. | Commission from Doge Agostino Barbarigo. "*Commemoriali*," vol. 18, p. 53. |
| ANDREA TREVISAN - | 29 Nov. 1496 to 12 Jan. 1497–98. | Secret Journals of the Senate (*Secreta Senato*). Election 1496, 29 November, vol. 36, p. 84. Commission, vol. 36, p. 136. Vote of recall, vol. 36, p. 180. Also Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*. |
| FRANCESCO CAPELLO - | 27 Nov. 1501 to July 1502. | Secret Journals of the Senate (*Secreta Senato*), vol. 38, p. 176, tergo, vol. 39, p. 10, tergo; also Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*, and original letter from Henry VII. in the Correr Museum. |
| VINCENZO QUERINI - | Jan. to April 1506. | Original Letter book of Vincenzo Querini in St. Mark's Library. |
| ANDREA BADOER, alone - | 9 Feb. 1508–9. 12 to 18 April 1515. | Original commission in the miscellaneous Journals of the Council of Ten, Giustinian's Despatches, and Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*. |

| Agent's Name or Title. | Date of the Employment. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c. |
|---|---|---|
| Andrea Badoer.<br>Pietro Pasqualigo.<br>Sebastian Giustinian. | 18 April to 3 May 1515. | Original commission in the Secret Journals of the Senate, date 1 February 1514–15, and Giustinian's Original Letter-book in St. Mark's Library. |
| Andrea Badoer and Sebastian Giustinian. | 3 May to 19 Nov. 1515. | Giustinian's Original Despatches, *passim*. |
| Sebastian Giustinian, alone. | 19 Nov. to 20 June 1519. | Giustinian's Original Despatches, *passim*. |
| Sebastian Giustinian and Antonio Surian. | 20 June to 27 July 1519. | Giustinian's Original Despatches. |
| Antonio Surian, alone - | 27 July to 1519<br>26 May 1520. | Original commission in the Secret Journals of the Senate, 25 January 1518–1519, and Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*. |
| Francesco Corner and Antonio Surian. | 26 to 30 May 1520. | Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*. |
| Antonio Surian, alone - | 30 May 1520 to<br>27 May 1522. | Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*, and Gaspar Contarini's Original Letter-book in St. Mark's Library. |
| Antonio Surian and Gasparo Contarini. | 27 May to 5 July 1522. | Gaspar Contarini's Original Letter-book in St. Mark's Library. |
| Antonio Surian, alone - | 5 July 1522 to<br>9 Sept. 1523. | Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*. |
| Lorenzo Orio - - | 5 April 1525 to<br>12 May 1526. | Original Commission in the Secret Journals of the Senate, date 5 April 1525, and Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*. |
| Gasparo Spinelli - | 12 May to 13 Nov. 1526. | Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*, and original commission in the Secret Journals of the Senate, date 8 June 1526. |
| Marc' Antonio Venier, alone. | 13 Nov. 1526 to<br>17 Dec. 1528. | Original commission in the Secret Journals of the Senate, date 1 August 1526, and Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*. |
| Marc' Antonio Venier and Lodovico Falier. | 17 Dec. 1528 to<br>Jan. 1528–29. | Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*. |
| Lodovico Falier - | Jan. 1528–29 to<br>Aug. 1531. | Original commission in the Secret Journals of the Senate, date 3 October, 1528, and Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*. |
| Lodovico Falier and Carlo Capello. | Aug. 11 to — Sept. 1531. | Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*. |
| Carlo Capello, alone - | — Sept. 1531 to<br>April 1535. | Original commission and vote of recall in the Secret Journals of the Senate, date 12 June 1531 and 14 January 1534–5; also Sanuto's Diaries, *passim*. |
| Girolamo Zuccato - | April 1535 to Aug. 1544. | Secret Journals of the Senate, 14 January 1534–5 and 29 August 1544. |
| Giacomo Zambon - | — Aug. 1544 to<br>June 1548. | Original commission in the Secret Journals of the Senate, 29 August 1544. |

| Agent's Name or Title. | Date of the Employment. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c. |
|---|---|---|
| Domenico Bollani | 4 June 1547 to Oct. 1549. | Original commission in the Secret Journals of the Senate, date 4 June 1547, and letters of recall, date 25 April 1549; also Barbaro's Report, p. 227, and Turnbull's Calendar, Edward VI., p. 17. The letter from Edmond Harvel shows that Bollani was still at Venice on the 20th March 1548. |
| Daniele Barbaro | 25 April 1549 to March 1554. | Original commission in the Secret Journals of the Senate, 25 April 1549; Printed Report, Series I. vol. 2, p. 228 (Alberi's edition); and Turnbull's Calendar, Edw. VI. p. 98. |
| Alvise Agostini | March to July 1551. | Original commission in the Secret Journals of the Senate, date 27 December 1550; letter recalling Daniele Barbaro. |
| Giacomo Soranzo | March 28 to May 1554. | Original commission in the Secret Journals of the Senate, date 28 March 1551; letter of recall; private motions of the Council of Ten, files, date 29 December 1553, and 6 and 28 March 1554. |
| Gio. Michiel | 27 March 1554 to Feb. 1557. | Original commission in the Secret Journals of the Senate, date 27 March 1554; private motions of the Council of Ten, files, March 1554; letter of recall, date 5 December 1556. |
| Michiel Surian | 5 Dec. 1556 to 2 July 1557. | Letter of recall addressed to Giovanni Michiel; Secret Journals of the Senate, date 5 December 1556; and Despatch from Michel Surian to Doge Lorenzo Priuli, date London, 2 July 1557. |

N.B.—The words *original commission*, &c. are used throughout to designate the original records or enrolments of the respective documents.

ABRIDGED CATALOGUE of the SERIES of DESPATCHES written from ENGLAND by the DIPLOMATIC AGENTS of VENICE, and which yet exist in the Archives there.

| Name of the Diplomatic Agent. | Date of the first Despatch. | Date of the last Despatch. | Number of the Despatches. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| GIO. MICHIEL - | London, 1554, June 12. | London, 1557, January 26. | 89 | One sixth part of the letters written by Geo. Michiel, is in cypher without any key. |
| MICHIEL SURIAN - | Westminster, 1557, March 31. | London, 1557, July 2. | 25 | |
| GIO. SCARAMELLI - | London, 1603, February 4. | Kingston, 1603, October 22. | 72 | |
| PIETRO DUODO - | Southampton, 1603, November 20. | Salisbury, 1603. December 12. | 21 | |
| NICOLÒ MOLINO - | Dover, 1603, November 4. | London, 1606, January 25. | 120 | |
| ZORZI GIUSTINIAN - | London, 1606, January 6. | London, 1608, November 20. | 233 | |
| MARC' ANTNIO CORRER | London, 1608, October 16. | London, 1611. June 9. | 168 | |
| FRANCESCO CONTARINI | London, 1610, February 4. | London, 1610, March 4. | 8 | |
| ANTONIO FOSCARINI - | London, 1611, May 12. | London, 1615, October 16. | 455 | |
| GIORGIO BARBARIGO - | London, 1615. October 16. | London, 1616, June 3. | 54 | |
| GIO. BATTA LIONELLO | London, 1616, June 6. | London, 1617, October 13. | 99 | |
| PIETRO CONTARINI - | London, 1617, October 25. | London, 1618, November 23. | 78 | |
| ANTONIO DONATO - | London, 1618, November 16. | London, 1619, May 16. | 36 | |
| PIER' ANTNIO MARIONI | London, 1619, May 24. | London, 1619, December 13. | 33 | |
| GIROLAMO LANDO - | London, 1619, December 18. | London, 1622, June 24. | 225 | |
| ALVISE VALLARESSO | London, 1622, June 24. | London, 1624, October 4. | 140 | |
| ZUANE PESARO - | London, 1624, September 27. | London, 1626, May 29. | 129 | |
| ANDREA ROSSO - | London, 1625, February 7. | London, 1625, March 7. | 6 | |
| ANDREA ROSSO - | London, 1626, August 21. | London, 1629, July 13. | 7 | |
| ALVISE CONTARINI - | London, 1626, June 11. | London, 1629, August 14. | 244 | |

| Name of the Diplomatic Agent. | Date of the first Despatch. | Date of the last Despatch. | Number of the Despatches. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Marc' Antnio Correr and Angelo Contarini | London, 1626, July 3. | London, 1626, July 24. | 20 | |
| Gio. Soranzo | London, 1629, July 13. | London, 1632, March 12. | 109 | Some of the letters written by Gio. Soranzo, from July 1629 to February 1630, have suffered from damp. |
| Vincenzo Gussoni | London, 1632, February 6. | London, 1634, May 5. | 128 | |
| Francesco Zonca | London, 1634, May 12. | London, 1634, October 13. | 27 | |
| Anzolo Correr | London, 1634, October 20. | London, 1637, November 26. | 209 | |
| Francesco Zonca | London, 1637, November 27. | London, 1638, August 27. | 40 | |
| Gio. Giustinian | London, 1638, August 6. | London, 1642. December 13. | 261 | |
| Girolamo Agostini- | London, 1642, December 19. | London, 1645, January 27. | 129 | The letters of Girolamo Agostino, from March 1644 to January 1645, are illegible from mildew. |
| News Letters from London. | 1645, June 21. | 1652, May 2. | 239 | Advices transmitted to Venice by the Ambrs. in France Battista Nani and Michiel Morosini. |
| Lorenzo Paoluzzi | London, 1652, May 2. | London, 1655, September 17. | 171 | |
| Gio. Sagredo | London, 1655, September 24. | London, 1656, February 11. | 41 | |
| Francesco Giavarina | London, 1656, February 18. | London, 1663. January 19. | 373 | |
| Angelo Correr and Michiel Morosini | Gravesend, 1661, July 22. | London, 1661, August 21. | 11 | These despatches no longer exist in the Archives; but may be read in the MS. No. 1245, now preserved in the Correr museum at Venice. |
| Piero Mocenigo | London, 1668, August 10. | London, 1670, November 28. | 167 | Some of the Mocenigo letters, from June 1668 to February 1669, are in a bad state, as also those of Girolamo Alberti, from January to October 1673; of Sarotti, from June 1676 to July 1677; and of Girolamo Vignola, from March 1683 to September 1685. |
| Girolamo Alberti | London, 1670, December 5. | London, 1675, June 21. | 353 | |
| Paolo Sarotti | London, 1675, April 26. | London, 1681, February 14. | 372 | |
| Girolamo Vignola | London, 1681. January 3. | London, 1686, July 5. | 309 | |
| Girolamo Zen and Ascanio Giustinian. | London, 1685. December 21. | London, 1686, January 25. | 17 | |

| Name of The Diplomatic Agent. | Date of the first Despatch. | Date of the last Despatch. | Number of the Despatches. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Paolo Sarotti - | London, 1686, June 21. | Greenwich, London, 1689, April 29. | 192 | |
| Lorenzo Soranzo, and Girolamo Venier. | London, 1696, April 27. | London, 1696, June 1. | 20 | |
| Alvise Mocenigo - | London, 1701, December 11. | London, 1705, October 9. | 312 | |
| Francesco Cornaro | London, 1705, October 9. | Rotterdam, 1709. July 12. | 202 | |
| Nicolò Erizzo, Alvise Pisani, and Francesco Cornaro. | Kensington, 1707, March 11. | Greenwich, 1707, June 8. | 23 | |
| Vendramino Bianchi | London, 1709, August 3. | Windsor, 1710, October 24. | 72 | |
| Pietro Grimani - | London, 1710. October 31. | London, 1714, June 15. | 201 | |
| Nicolò Tron - | London, 1714, July 27. | London, 1717, June 4. | 171 | |
| Giacinto Fiorelli - | London, 1717, June 11. | London, 1728. July 9. | 566 | |
| Girolamo Vignola - | London, 1728, July 16. | London, 1731, — Sept. | 164 | |
| Gio. Domenico Imberti. | London, 1732, November, 10/21 | London, 1736, July 23, August 3. | 201 | |
| Giacomo Busenello | London, 1736, August 10. | London, 1737, July 4. | 50 | |
| Pietro Andrea Capello. | Dover, 1744, March 27. | London, 1748, August 2, July 22. | 346 | The letters of Pietro Andrea Capello, from March to December 1746, have suffered so much from damp, that they are mere fragments. |
| Pietro Busenello - | London, 1748, August 9. | London, 1751, July 29/18. | 197 | The Businello letters from March to September 1750, are nt in a very good state. |
| Pietro Vignola - | Kensington, 1751, July 25, August 4. | London, 1754, October 18. | 177 | |
| Gio. Francesco Zon | Kensington, 1754, October 17. | London, 1758, February 24. | 180 | |
| Gio. Colombo - | London, 1758, March 8. | London, 1761, June 30. | 218 | |
| Gio. Girolamo Zuccato. | London, 1761, July 7. | London, 1764, July 27. | 119 | |

| Name of the Diplomatic Agent. | Date of the first Despatch. | Date of the last Despatch. | Number of the Despatches. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Francesco Querini and Francesco Morosini. | London, 1762, June 8. | London, 1763, May 3. | 50 | |
| Cesare Vignola - | London, 1764, August 3. | London, 1768, September 25. | 215 | |
| Giuseppe Imberti - | London, 1768, September 20. | London, 1772, January 10. | 166 | |
| Gio. Berlendis - | London, 1771, November 8. | London, 1774, December 16. | 163 | |
| Gio. Battista Pizzoni. | London, 1774, December 16. | London, 1779, March 5. | 260 | |
| Simon Cavalli - | London, 1778, November 13. | London, 1782, April 30. | 208 | |
| Giorgio Torniello | London, 1782, April 16. | London, 1786, February 17. | 217 | |
| Gasparo Soderini - | London, 1786, February 17. | London, 1787, June 29. | 82 | |
| | | | 9,991 | |

The receipt given by the French Commissary Bassal, on the 14th December 1797, mentions 139 volumes of despatches written by the agents of the Republic in England. Of these only 134 are now to be found at the "Frari." Of the missing five volumes I can discover no account; but it is not impossible they may be still at Paris.

REPORTS of ENGLAND by VENETIAN AMBASSADORS now existing at the "Frari."

| Number. | Name. | Date of the Report. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | LODOVICO FALIER - | 1531 | Pages 38½. Published in the Alberi collection. |
| 2 | DANIELE BARBARO - | 1551, May | Pages 32¾. „ „ „ |
| 3 | GIOVANNI MICHIEL - | 1556 | Pages 12. „ „ „ |
| 4 | ANTONIO FOSCARINI - | 1618, December | Pages 62¾. Hitherto unpublished, August 1863. |
| 5 | GIROLAMO LANDO - | 1622, September, 20, 21. | Pages 58. „ „ „ |
| 6 | VINCENZO GUSSONI - | 1635, April 13 | Pages 52. „ „ „ |
| 7 | ANGELO CORRER - | 1637, October 24 | Pages 23. „ „ „ |
| 8 | ANGELO CORRER and MICHIEL, MOROSINI. | 1662, February 8 | Pages 17¼. „ „ |
| 9 | PIETRO MOCENIGO - | 1671, June 9 | Pages 31. „ „ „ |
| 10 | GIROLAMO ZEN and ASCANIO GIUSTINIAN. | 1686, May 30 | Pages 31. „ „ |
| 11 | LORENZO SORANZO and GIROLAMO VENIER. | 1696, September 19 | Pages 70½. „ „ „ |
| 12 | ALVISE MOCENIGO - | 1706, August 21 | Pages 94¾. „ „ „ |
| 13 | TOMMASO QUERINI and FRANCESCO MOROSINI. | 1763, December 15 | Pages 52. „ „ „ |

As already stated, the report by Daniele Barbaro is on parchment, and all the others on paper. The first three alone have been published.

# TABLE No. 3.

## VENETIAN CONSULS IN ENGLAND.

| Consul's Name. | Date of Employment. | Documentary evidence of the Appointment. |
|---|---|---|
| ANDREA DE MOLINO (Vice Consul) - - - | 1410 | Missive from the Senate to Antonio Bembo. Misti Senato, vol. 48, p. 142. |
| HUGH RYS (Venetian Consul at Sandwich) probably a British subject. | 1427 | Parchment broadside certificate, in the Venice Archives. |
| ANDREA CORNARO - | 1440 | Senate's Registers "Sea," vol. 2, p. 107. |
| MARCO BARBARIGO - | 1448–49 February 15 | " " " vol. 3. p. 99. |
| BERTUCCIO CONTARINI - | 1456–1460 | " " " vol. 5. p. 167.<br>" " " vol. 6, p. 42.<br>" " " " p. 163. |
| BERNARDO GIUSTINIAN - | 1463–64 | " " " vol. 7, p. 150. |
| MARCO DA CA. DA PESARO | 1468 | " " " vol. 9, p. 13. |
| PAULO TIEPOLO - - | 1471–72 | " " " vol. 9, p. 125. |
| FERRIGO DE PRIULI - | 1480 | " " " vol. 11, p. 89. |
| ALVISE CONTARINI - | 1481–82 | " " " vol. 11, p. 128. |
| PIETRO TREVISAN - - | 1487 March 8 | " " " vol. 12, p. 107. |
| PIERO CONTARINI - - - | 1490 March 11 | Deliberazioni Senato, vol. 34, p. 59. |
| LORENZO PISANI - - | 1492 December 14 | Senate's Registers, "Sea," vol. 13, p. 103. |
| ALMORÒ GRITI - - | 1494–95 | Senate's Registers, "Sea," vol. 14, p. 82–90. |
| NICOLÒ GIUSTINIAN - | 1495 April 3 | Senate's Registers, "Sea," vol. 14, p. 57. |
| PIERO CONTARINI - - | 1495 | Senate's Registers, "Sea," vol. 14, p. 82. |
| ALMORÒ PISANI - - | 1496 | Marin Sanuto's Diaries, passim. |
| THOMASO OURE (Consul at Hampton) probably a British subject. | 1498 April 18 | Senate's Registers, "Sea," vol. 14, p. 60. |
| ANDREA BRAGADIN - | 499 | Marin Sanuto's Diaries, vol. 2, p. 612. |
| PIERO TIEPOLO - | 1501 | Senate's Registers, "Sea," vol. 15, p. 160. |
| ANDREA BRAGADIN - - | 1502 | " " " " |
| NICOLÒ GIUSTINIAN - | 1503–4 | Deliberazioni Senato, vol. 39, p. 153, 27 January 1503–4. |
| PIETRO TIEPOLO - | 1507 | Marin Sanuto's Diaries, vol. 7, p. 190. |

| Consul's Name. | Date of Employment. | Documentary evidence of the Appointment. |
|---|---|---|
| Lorenzo Giustinian - | 1509 | Marin Sanuto's Diaries, vol. 8. p. 16, and p. 23. |
| Lorenzo Pasqualigo - | 1510 until March | „ „ „ vol. 9, p. 393. |
| Ferigo Morosini - | 1510 April 13 | „ „ „ vol. 10, p. 241. |
| Lorenzo Pasqualigo - | 1512 March | „ „ „ vol. 14, p. 187. |
| Hieronymo Molin - | 1532 | „ „ „ Date 6 April 1532. |
| ——— Erizzo - - | 1533 | „ „ „ Date 16 June 1533. |
| Gio. da Ca da Pesaro - | 1568 | Original letter from Queen Elizabeth in the Venice Archives, date Oatlands, 29 June 1570. |

The foregoing list, imperfect as it is, has been formed with much difficulty. As the elections were annual, the missing names must be very numerous, unless we suppose the same persons were frequently re-elected. All those in my list, except Rys and Oure, had their residence in London; and often seem to be styled indifferently consuls or *vice*-consuls.

The only documentary evidence hitherto discovered by me to prove the re-election of any consul in the 14th and 15th centuries relates to Piero Contarini, who held that post in London in March 1490, and the same name occurs in the same office in 1495–96.

In November 1457 the Senate confirmed the election of Bertuccio Contarini for an indefinite period, in order that he might wind up the accounts of the factory, and on the 28th March 1460 the Senate, on finding he had not completed his task, directs that his successor should be elected within the space of one month, for the usual term "per unum annum."

In Queen Elizabeth's time, Giovanni Pesaro retained the consulate without question for many years.

## TABLE No. 4.

CAPTAINS appointed to the Command of the FLANDERS GALLEYS trading between VENICE, ENGLAND, and FLANDERS, from the Year 1317 to 1533.

| Agent's Name or Title. | Date of the Employment. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c. |
|---|---|---|
| GABRIELLE DANDOLO | 1317 | Index (Misti Senato), vol. 4, p. 182. |
| MARIN MOROSINI | 1319 | Index (Misti Senato), vol. 6, p. 60. |
| MARCO MINOTTO | 1322 | "*Fronesis*," Grand Council. 14 Feb. 1324. |
| DARDI BEMBO | 1325 | Index (Misti Senato), vol. 4, p. 167; vol. 9, pp. 28, 33, 34, 39, and 83; vol. 10, p. 81. |
| PERONO GIUSTINIAN | —— | Index (Misti Senato), vol. 9, p. 78. |
| MARIN CAPELLO | 1334, 19 April | Index (Misti Senato), vol. 16, p. 58, April 19. |
| PIETRO CIVRANO | 1336 | 18 April. *See* Misti Senato, 18 April 1336 and 1347, 20 Feb., vol. 24, p. 24. |
| FRANCESCO GIUSTINIAN | 1357 | Index (Misti Senato), vol. 28, p. 101, and Commemoriali, vol. 7, p. 199. Safe-conduct from Edward III., date 20 April 1375. |
| FRANCESCO COCCO | 1359 | Index (Misti Senato), vol. 29, pp. 12 and 31. |
| PIERO MOCENIGO | 1359, 24 Feb. | Farsetti MS., in St. Mark's Library. |
| . . . . . | 1372–74 | Index (Misti Senato), vol. 34, pp. 151, 152. |
| SARACENO DANDOLO | 1384, 14 Feb. | Elezioni del Maggior Consiglio del Secretario alle voci. |
| NICOLÓ ZENO | 1385, 22 Jan. | " " " |
| PIETRO DE VITTURI | 1386, 18 March | " " " |
| FRANCESCO BRAGADINO | 1388, 2 Jan. | " " " |
| FANTINI MICHIEL | 1404 | Farsetti MS. |
| FANTINI MICHIEL | 1406 | " " |
| PIERO CIVRAN | 1407 | " " |
| NICOLÓ FOSCOLO | 1407 | " " |
| GIACOMO TRIVISAN | 1409 | " " |
| NICOLÓ FOSCOLO | 1410 | " " |
| LUNARDO MOCENIGO | 1411 | " " |
| MARCO ZUSTINIAN | 1411 | " " |
| ALMORÓ LOMBARDO | 1412 | " " |
| ANDREA ZANE | 1413 | " " |
| PIERO LOREDAN | 1414 | " " |
| ANDREA MOLIN | 1415 | " " |
| FRANCESCO PISANI | 1416 | " " |
| ZUANE LOREDAN | 1417 | " " |
| MARCO ZUSTINIAN | 1418 | " " |
| ZUANE DIEDO | 1419 | " " |
| NADAL MIANI | 1420 | " " |
| ANDREA ZANE | 1421 | " " |
| LORENZO CAPELLO | 1422 | " " |
| BERTUCCI DIEDO | 1423 | " " |
| NADAL DONADO | 1424 | " " |
| VIDO CANAL | 1425 | " " |
| NICOLÓ CAPELLO | 1426 | " " |
| LORENZO DONADO | 1427 | " " |
| STEFANO CONTARINI | 1428 | " " |
| FERIGO CONTARINI | 1430 | " " |
| POLO PASQUALIGO | 1433 | " " |
| LORENZO DONADO | 1433 | " " |
| TOMÀ DUODO | 1434 | " " |
| FRANCESCO CAPELLO | 1435 | " " |
| PIERO MULLA | 1437 | " " |
| ANTONIO DIEDO | 1438, 2 March | Elezioni del Maggior Consiglio del Se voci. |

| Agent's Name or Title. | Date of the Employment. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c. |
|---|---|---|
| Giacomo Loredano - | 1439, 8 March | Elezioni del Maggior Consiglio del Secretario alle voci. |
| Giorgio Loredano - | 1440, 13 March | " " " |
| Lorenzo Minio - - | 1441, 19 Feb. | " " " |
| Paulo Contarini - | 1442 | Farsetti MS. |
| Zorzi Vallaresso - | 1443 | " " |
| Marco Morosini - | 1444, 9 Feb. | Elezioni del Maggior Consiglio del Secretario alle voci. |
| Leonardo Contarini - | 1445, 14 Feb. | " " " |
| Triadano Gritti - | 1446, 22 Feb. | " " " |
| Marco Zeno - - | 1447, 16 April | " " " |
| Nicolò Miani - - | 1448, 18 Feb. | " " " |
| Francesco da Leze - | 1449, 3 May | " " " |
| Benedetto Vitturi - | 1449, 6 July | " " " |
| Giacomo Barbarigo - | 1451, 14 March | " " " |
| Stefano Trevisano - | 1452, 25 Jan. | " " " |
| Arseino Duodo - - | 1453, 11 March | " " " |
| Marco Zeno - - | 1454, 24 March | " " " |
| Maffio Contarini - | 1455, 9 March | " " " |
| Lorenzo Moro - - | 1456 | Farsetti MS. |
| Zuane Malipiero - | 1457 | " " |
| Andrea Leon - - | 1458 | " " |
| Alvise Diedo - - | 1459 | " " |
| Piero Zorzi - - | 1460 | " " |
| Marin Malipiero - | 1461 | " " |
| Anzolo Pesaro - - | 1462 | " " |
| Stefano Malipiero - | 1463 | " " |
| Stefano Erizzo - | 1464 | " " |
| Piero Rimondo - - | 1465 | " " |
| Gieronimo Molin - | 1466 | " " |
| Luca Moro - - | 1467 | " " |
| Lorenzo Loredan - | 1468 | " " |
| Zuane Capello - - | 1469 | " " |
| Gabriel Trivisan - | 1470 | " " |
| Bertuccio Soranzo - | 1472 | Register Senate, see date 8 Feb. 1472. |
| Bortolo Duodo - - | 1472 | Farsetti MS. |
| Antonio Malipiero - | 1473 | " " |
| Nicolò Basadonna - | 1474 | " " |
| Antonio Contarini - | 1474 | Senato Mar, 1476, 13 May, p. 114. |
| Gieronimo Morosini - | 1475 | Farsetti MS. |
| Andrea da Mosto - | 1476 | Senato Mar, 1476, 13 May, p. 114. |
| Damian Moro - - | 1477 | Farsetti MS. |
| Lorenzo Venier - | 1478 | " " |
| Nicolò Duodo - - | 1479 | " " |
| Baldissera Trivisan - | 1479 | " " |
| Nicolo Capello - | 1480 | " " |
| Benetto Pesaro - | 1481 | " " |
| Maffio Priuli - - | 1482 | " " |
| Gieronimo Malipiero - | 1482 | " " |
| Agostin Foscarini - | 1483 | " " |
| Bortolameo Minio - | 1485 | See Commissioni Originali. |
| Antonio Sanudo - | 1486 | Farsetti MS. |
| Piero Malipiero - | 1488 | Sanuto, Vite de Dogi autografo Libr. S. Marco. |
| Andrea Sanudo - - | 1488, 30 June | " " " |
| Nicolò Contarini - | 1489 | Farsetti MS. |
| Giacomo Venier - | 1490 | " " |
| Piero Balbi - - | 1491 | " " |
| Tommaso Zeno - - | 1493, 24 Feb. | Elezioni del Maggior Consiglio del Secretario alle voci. |
| Santo Tiepolo - - | 1494, 31 March | " " " |
| Domenico Contarini - | 1495, 14 April | " " " |
| Giacomo Capello - | 1496 | Farsetti MS. |
| Luca Querini - - | 1498, 23 April | Elezioni del Maggior Consiglio del Secretario alle voci. |
| Giacomo Capello - | 1498, 1 July | " " " |
| Domenico Zorzi - - | 1499, 24 Feb. | " " " |

| Agent's Name or Title. | Date of the Employment. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c. |
|---|---|---|
| Marc' Antonio Loredan | 1499, 3 March | Elezioni del Maggior Consiglio del Secretario alle voci. |
| Marco Orio - - | 1499, 10 March | ,, ,, ,, |
| Luigi de Priuli - - | 1501, 23 May | ,, ,, ,, |
| Girolamo da Ca da Pesaro. | 1503, 31 April | ,, ,, ,, |
| Vincenzo Capello - | 1504, 3 May | ,, ,, ,, |
| Marc' Antonio Contarini | 1504, 22 July | ,, ,, ,, |
| Pietro Bragadino - | 1506, 15 Nov. | ,, ,, ,, |
| Andrea Bragadino - | 1507, 21 Feb. | ,, ,, ,, |
| Agostin da Mulla - - | 1508, 19 March | ,, ,, ,, |
| Andrea de Priuli - | 1517, 1 March | ,, ,, ,, |
| Giovanni Moro - - | 1518, 21 Sept. | ,, ,, ,, |
| Vincenzo de Priuli - | 1520, 16 Dec. | Arrived at Plymouth 8 Dec. 1521. *See* Diary Sanuto, 24 Jan. 1 22. |
| Filippo Basadonna - | 1532 | Diary Sanuto, 1 Oct. 1531. *See* April and 21 June 1532. |
| Gieronimo Contarini - | 1533 | Farsetti MS. |

The list of the captains of the Flanders galleys derived from the Farsetti MS. is not always in accordance with the entries in the registers of the Senate. The superabundance of names may be variously accounted for; some allowance must be made for resignations and deaths. The vice-captains may occasionally be confounded with the captains, and the ancient style of commencing the year on the 1st March may explain the mistake of supposing that galleys of the State performed the Flanders voyage more than once in the same year. There is no doubt that all the persons named in the Farsetti MS. were appointed to commands in the Flanders fleet, and, except in the rare cases of death and resignation, actually visited our shores.

The above quoted MS. is considered very valuable and of great authority; it belonged to a collection which was made in the middle of the last century by the commander of Malta, Tommaso Giuseppe Farsetti, who in 1792 bequeathed all his manuscripts to St. Mark's Library, where they are now preserved.

## TABLE No. 5.

Produce and Manufactures conveyed to ENGLAND by the VENETIANS in the FLANDERS GALLEYS, during the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries.

| Name of Produce or Manufacture. | Site of the Article's Growth or Manufacture. | Where procured by the Venetians. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Spun cotton - | India - - | Damascus. | |
| | Cyprus - - | Cyprus, | |
| | Egypt - - | Messina. | |
| Raw cotton, or Maltese cotton - - - | Patras-Arta - | Messina. | |
| Cloths of silk - - - | Venice - - | Venice - - | The Venetian silk manufactures dated from the year 1240. See Marin, History of Venetian Commerce, vol. 5, p. 252. |
| Bawdekins of gold and silk - - - - | Venice - | Venice - | The word in Venetian is *"Baldacchini,"* from Baldacca sive Bagdad sive Babylon (*see* Menagio: Le origini della lingua Italiana. Ginevra, 1685); and this material being used for *"Canopies,"* they were called in Italian *"Baldacchini."* |
| Damasks and satins, mostly black - - | Venice - - | Venice. | |
| Camlets—mostly black and fine; and some violet-coloured - | Angora and Cyprus - | Cyprus. | |
| Dyed silks, yellow, blue and light green | Persia - - | Aleppo. - - | These silks were dyed in Venice. |
| | Turkey. | Damascus. | |
| | Sicily. | Sicily. | |
| | Greece. | Greece. | |
| | Italy. | | |
| Raw silk - - - | Messina - - | Messina. | The raw silks sold well in England, and two Venetian lbs., silk-weight, were equal to 1 lb. English. |
| | Calabria. | Almeria. | |
| | Almeria. | Malaga. | |
| | Malaga. | | |
| Double-twisted wimple silks - - - - | Venice - - | Venice - - | In the original, this manufacture is styled *"Zendalli torti dopi."* The Venetian *Zendalle* closely resembled the English wimple, and the "zendada" silk is mentioned by Marin as having been first manufactured in the year 1240. *"Cendallum," Sandali,* a fine silk stuff. See Webb's Glossary. Household Roll of Bishop Swinfield. |
| Lamb-skins - - | Puglia - - | Messina - - | These lamb-skins were of the sort now called *"Astrachan."* |
| *"Marchiani"* - - | | | What *"Marchiani"* may have been I am unable to ascertain. |

In the Fifteenth Century the following Articles figured in the VENETIAN "Price Currents" as Spices.

| Name of Produce or Manufacture. | Site of the Article's Growth or Manufacture. | Where procured by the Venetians. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Gingers | Malabar | Alexandria<br>Damascus. | Ginger, in the 14th and 15th centuries, was taken as a stimulant, and supposed to be anti-scorbutic. |
| Cinnamon | Ceylon | Damascus.<br>Alexandria. | |
| Pepper | Hindostan | Damascus.<br>Alexandria. | |
| Cloves | Ternate | Damascus.<br>Alexandria. | |
| Clove stems | Ternate | " | This spice, termed by Paxi "*Fusti de garofoli*" may possibly have been *pimenta*. |
| Nutmegs | Malacca | " | |
| Cassia in the reed | East Indies<br>Egypt.<br>Alexandria. | Alexandria. | |
| Red sandal wood | Tanasarim<br>Coromandel. | " | Red sandal-wood was considered an astringent and tonic; and taken internally to purify the blood and allay sickness. |
| "Verzin," *sive* Phytolacca Scosandra | East Indies | " | The flowers of this tree were purgative and it also furnishes a purple dye. |
| Wormwood | Persia | Constantinople<br>Damascus.<br>Alexandria.<br>Aleppo. | Vermifuge and stimulant to menstruation. |
| Saffron | Aquila<br>Sulmona.<br>Romagna.<br>Tuscany.<br>Cremona.<br>Lombardy.<br>Puglia.<br>Bari. | Venice. | By the laws of the Grand Council, date 21 August 1288, it may be inferred that the general use of saffron, in Europe, commenced at that period. It was considered a cordial, a pectoral, an anodyne, an aperient, and an antidote to poison and hysterics. It was also employed for culinary purposes. Saffron is supposed to have been first cultivated in England A. D. 1582. |
| Mastic | Scio | Scio<br>Alexandria. | Astringent—anodyne, tonic. |
| Galangal | East Indies | Damascus | Tonic, diuretic, stimulant to menstruation. |
| Spikenard | East Indies | Alexandria<br>Damascus. | Supposed to be a remedy for stone: diuretic, stimulant to menstruation; antidote to poison, &c. |

| Name of Produce or Manufacture. | Site of the Article's Growth or Manufacture. | Where procured by the Venetians. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Galbanum | East Indies Syria and Arabia. | Aleppo Alexandria. | A remedy mentioned by Dioscorides, and much in use with women. |
| Sal ammoniac | Egypt | Damascus | Sudorific and aperient. |
| Sagapen *sive* Gum Seraphic | Persia | Aleppo Alexandria. | Sudorific and aperient.—Remedy in use with women. |
| Opopanax (gum) | Macedonia | Aleppo | Tonic—remedy for hysteria. |
| Gum Dragon | East Indies Southern Arabia. | Alexandria | Astringent—styptic. For an account of the Dracœna Draco *see* Wellsted's Travels in Arabia, vol. 2, p. 448, 449. |
| Gum Arabic | Arabia | Alexandria. | |
| Borax | Persia | Alexandria | Used for glandular affections, to encourage menstruation, and for diseases of the spleen. |
| Camphor | Borneo | ,, | Used as an anti-scorbutic, for hysterical affections, &c. |

The foregoing articles of Eastern produce were styled by the Venetians "*Grossspice*" (*Speciegrosse*, whence the terms GROCER and EPICIER). The Drugs or "*small spice*" (*Specie menude*) with which they supplied England were of the following kinds:

| Name of Produce or Manufacture. | Site of the Article's Growth or Manufacture. | Where procured by the Venetians. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Refined scammony | Aleppo | Aleppo | Strong purgative. Botanical names: convolvulus Syriacus, scammonia Syriaca. |
| Rhubarb | Persia | Constantinople | Gentle purgative. |
| Manna | Persia Syria. | Aleppo Damascus. | Slightly purgative. |
| Aloes | Socotra | Alexandria Damascus. Aleppo. | ,, ,, |
| Refined turbith | Ceylon Surat. Goa. | Damascus Alexandria. | Purgative. Botanical name: convolvulus Indicus. |
| Terebenthina | Isle of Scio | Isle of Scio | A liquid rosin or gluey liquid, procured by incision from several trees. It was strongly aperient, and administered in doses varying from half a drachm to one drachm, for ulcers in the kidneys and bladder, for gonorrhœa, and also as a diuretic. |

| Name of the Produce or Manufacture. | Site of the Article's Growth or Manufacture. | Where procured by the Venetians. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Seed-pearls for pounding. | Persian Gulf - | Damascus - Aleppo. Alexandria. | Oriental pearls were used in the 14th and 15th centuries for medicinal purposes, and those of smallest size took the name of seed pearls from their shape. Being alkaline, they corrected acidity, and were also supposed to be an antidote to poison and an invigorating cordial, which may account for the dissolved pearl presented by Cleopatra to Marc Anthony. Dose from six grains to half a drachm. |
| Ambergris - - | Shores of the Indian Ocean. | Alexandria - Aleppo. Damascus. Constantinople. | Tonic, and an exhilarating cordial, an antidote to poison, and a strong stimulant. It was supposed to render women hysterical, to cure men of melancholy. The dose varied from half a grain to four. |
| Musk - - | Asia and wherever the gazelle is found. | Alexandria - Damascus. Aleppo. Constantinople. | A tonic and cordial, an antidote to poison, &c. &c. Dose from half a grain to four grains. |
| Belzoe, *sive* Belzoim, *sive* Belzuinum. | East Indies - Siam. Sumatra. | Alexandria - | A very strong-smelling resinous gum, supposed to take effect on ulcerated lungs, to cure asthma, to be an antidote to poison, &c. &c. |
| Civet - - | East Indies and wherever the hyæna is found. | Aleppo - - Constantinople. Alexandria. | An anodyne, supposed to cure children of the cholic. |
| Tignames, *sive* Elichrysum. | —— | Alexandria - | Plant of flower said to be vermifuge, and to facilitate menstruation, &c. &c. |
| Calamus verus, *seu* amarus. in Italian, "Calamita." | East Indies - | Alexandria - Damascus. | A reed whose pulp was very bitter, and supposed to aid menstruation, to be an antidote to poison, and an aperient, &c. &c. |
| Storax - - | Syria - - | Alexandria - Damascus. Aleppo. | A gum supposed to be a tonic and emollient, &c. &c. |
| Auripigmentum, *seu* Orpiment. | Persia - Natolia. | Constantinople. Damascus. | —— |
| Elephants' teeth or tusks. | —— | —— | At so many gold pennies* (grossi) per lb. |
| Green gingers - | —— | —— | —— |
| Preserved myrabolans | —— | —— | An Indian plum, resembling the damson. They were considered purgative and astringent in the same degree as rhubarb. |

* The gold penny was equal to 20*d.* sterling. (See Ruding, vol. p. 2 70.)

| Name of the Produce or Manufacture. | Site of the Article's Growth or Manufacture. | Where procured by the Venetians. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Brown sugar - - | Palermo. | —— | —— |
| Syruped fruits, and White comfits. | Palermo. | —— | —— |
| Currants - - | Patras - - | —— | Of good quality, and sold well. |
| Dried prunes - - | Naples. Sicily. | —— | —— |
| Dates, coral, and coral buttons or beads. | Messina - - | —— | Of large size and good colour. They were called "*Pater nostri*," from their resemblance to the five large beads in the Roman Catholic chaplet. |
| Gall-nuts - - | Puglia. | —— | —— |
| Malmsies - - | Candia - - | —— | Of good quality. |
| Wine - - - | Tyre - - | —— | By an Act, 1 Richard III. (1433–4), it it is seen that the Venetians were charged, with every butt of malmsey and every butt of Tyre, to import ten bow staves, under penalty of 13*s.* 4*d.* |
| Bow staves. | —— | —— | —— |
| Books, manuscript and printed, and illuminated works. | —— | —— | See an Act, 1 Richard III. (1483–4), concerning "lympners, bynders, and imprynters." |
| Paper - - - | —— | —— | See Commission to Bartolomeo Minio, captain of the Flanders galleys, A.D. 1485. |
| Earthenware and glass | —— | —— | See safe conducts from Richard II., date September 17, 1399, and from Henry IV., December 3, 1400, Commemoriale, No. ix., p. 3 and p. 152. |

## EXPORTS from SICILY conveyed by the FLANDERS GALLEYS to ENGLAND.

Refined sugar.
Brown sugar.
Molasses.
White comfits.
Syruped confections.
Dried prunes.
Large coral beads or buttons, or "Pater nosters."
Spun cottons.
Maltese cottons.
Raw silk, or silk yarn, from Messina.
Saltpetre.

The dates assigned to the discovery of Madeira vary, in printed works.

In Marin Sanuto's MS. diaries it is stated, date August 1496, that the discovery was made in 1450; that thenceforth the sugars of Cyprus, Alexandria, Syria, Damietta, Sicily, Valentia, *and other parts* fell to a very low price; and that, commencing with the year 1486, there arrived annually at Venice five or six ships, caravels, or barks, of from two to five hundred butts each, freighted with Madeira sugar.

By the foregoing list of Venetian exports it appears, that down to the year 1503 the sugars of Sicily were preferred, in England, to those of the Levant or of Madeira.

## TABLE No. 6.

### MERCHANDISE loaded by the FLANDERS GALLEYS in ENGLAND.

| Name of Produce or Manufacture. | Remarks. |
|---|---|
| Frankish wools (lane Franzesche). | The term Frankish was employed to distinguish them from Eastern wools. In the glossary of Anglo-Norman, &c. (Muni-menta Gildhallie, II. pt. iii. p. 727), we read "Francisse, Engl. *Franks*, Frenchmen." |
| Tin in rods (in verga). | |
| Dressed hides. | |
| Broad cloths, called white bastards. | |
| Narrow bastard cloths. | |
| Essex cloths, 1 yard wide and 14 yards long. Essex cloths, broad and narrow, sold at so many shillings the dozen. When unshrunk, they measured 14 ells, which shrank to 12, and 16 ells reduced themselves to 14, according to the length of the cloths. | |
| Tawney cloths of the width and length of the Essex cloths, but of lower quality. | |
| Fine medleys (? mostovaleri) from thirty to thirty-one yards long. | |
| olored cloths | |
| Broad medleys (mostovaleri) according to the colors required for the scales. | |
| White kersies. | |
| Kersies, dyed red, grey, green and cream color; two yards and a half Venetian measure in width; and from 15 to 16 or 18 yards in length, according to quality. | |
| Village medley cloths colored (Panni vilazi mostovaleri acoloradi), nearly two yards wide, and 24 yards long or thereabouts. | |
| Winchester cloths, good and broad, each piece being from 26 to 27 yards long, and of good wool. | |
| Winchester cloths, good and broad, each piece measuring from 26 to 27 yards in length, and of good wool. | |
| Suffolk medleys, (mostovaleri,) and of other colors, they were of good appearance, but of bad wool, and measured from 36 to 40 yards the piece. | |
| Friezes for night wear of loose texture (sono lasse de sorte) and sold well; they measured 24 yards, equal to ten Sicilian "Canne." | |
| Unshorn friezes were of better quality; white, and sold by the ell. The single piece measured 12 ells. These white friezes called "dozens," cost from 18 to 32 shillings, the dozen. | |

| Name of Produce or Manufacture. | Remarks. |
|---|---|
| White Guildford cloths were sold by the ell at the rate of from 2 to 3 ducats the piece, according to quality, the piece measuring from 38 to 42 yards. | On the 4th of September 1453, the rate of exchange between Venice and London was 44½*d.* per ducat (See protested bill of that date.) |
| Cloths of London, Witney, and Loddon (commonly called Norwich cloths) were sold by the piece. | |
| There was one quality of London cloth measuring 30 ells the piece when shrunk, and sold accordingly, and when it exceeded that measure, the surplus was for the purchaser, who was, however, entitled to indemnity if it fell short of the stipulated quantity. | |
| The white cloths of Witney were sold by the piece measuring thirty ells. | |
| The Loddon cloths were sold by the piece of twenty four ells, when shrunk, such being the stipulated measure; each piece costing from 6 to 7 marks. | The mark here quoted was a money of account equal to about 3*s.* 9*d.* sterling. |
| Large ox-hides, Flemish-dressing, sold by the piece, and of ready sale at all the scales, especially in Sicily and at Pisa. | |
| Dressed calf skins sold by the dozen; they were required to be large, very heavy, and well dressed; and were expected to weigh upwards of 30 lbs. the dozen. | |
| For Majorca, Pisa, and Sicily, England exported also by the Flanders Galleys block tin (stagni in peza), which was sold by the cwt., exceeding the Venetian weight by two lbs.; and lead, by the fother. | |
| Wrought pewter was likewise in demand for Venice, and the intermediate ports; the exportation of porringers and platters of every sort being very considerable. | |

The Flanders galleys did not lead grain; but in the year 1498 a Venetian ship, Daniel Pasqualigo master, on its return from London took in a cargo of wheat (probably of English growth) at Calais, at the price of one ducat for five Venetian bushels (1), and the narrator of the fact observes that by so doing Pasqualigo gained more than he would have done had he shiped salt at Ivica.

The English exports for Sicily, shipped on board the Flanders galleys, consisted of various sorts of cloth, most especially large supplies of medleys (mostivaleri), kersies, and friezes.

Also tin in rods (stagni in verga), and pewter platters and porringers. In addition to most of the same imports as those for England, conveyed by the Flanders galleys, according to the foregoing table, they also supplied Bruges with tabby silks and silk yarn from Syria; dyed silk, yellow and light blue, cardamums, lake gum from Bassora, Barbary wax, rock alum from Constantinople, the produce of Macedonia, woad, indigo, hepatick aloes, gum cistus, ostrich feathers, &c. &c.

The Flanders galleys, in addition to many of the aforesaid commodities, also supplied Antwerp with sulphur from Sicily, ivory teeth for combs, jewels and large pearls, rubies, turquoises and diamonds.

The exports of Bruges for Venice, shipped by the Flanders galleys, were rough bars of tin (stagni in verga roza), double and single serges, baizes of every sort, and some bastard cloths, quantities of double and single caps, black and blue, cutlery, woollen gloves, white caps, &c.; and Bruges, through the Flanders galleys, also supplied Naples, Puglia, Calabria with cloths, woollen caps, and woollen gloves; much cutlery and brass and tin-ware, bow-strings, double and single serges, white thread, door curtains, &c.

From Antwerp Venice exported by the Flanders galleys double and single serges, baizes of all sorts, double and single caps of all colors, white night caps, and woollen gloves, cutlery, hardware, etc.

By the statutes for the Flanders galleys dated February 1347, it is seen that at that period, amongst the merchandize which constituted their homeward cargoes, was amber which paid freight at the rate of 25 shillings (solidos) gross, per thousand weight troy; but in Paxi's list of Flemish exports there is no mention of this substance.

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(1) By a protested bill, now in my possession, drawn on Bernardo Giustinian in London, date Venice, 21 July 1475, it is seen that the Venetian ducat was then exchanged for 56 silver pence, and the Venetian bushel weighed 132 lbs. gross; so we learn that in the year 1498, 660lbs. of wheat cost 4*s.* 8*d.* One hundred lbs. avoirdupois were equal to 96 Venetian lbs. gross.

The account of the wheat shipped at Calais may be read in the 2d Part of the "Annali Veneti," edited by Count Sagredo, p. 710–711, edition Florence, 1844.

From various notices of the Anglo-Venetian trade in the 14th and 15th centuries, it appears :

I. That the standard of the troy weight was quoted thus, "Eleven ounces and two deniers made one pound troy."

II. The avoirdupois weight (the name was first acknowledged by statute A.D. 1532, 24 Henry VIII.) was known on foreign marts in the 14th and 15th centuries solely by the name of "*Tria*" (Treves ?) weight (a), each pound of that denomination consisting of sixteen ounces.

III. 364lbs. Treves weight of English wool corresponded to Venetian lbs. gross - - - - 350
And to Venetian lbs. light, or troy - - - - - - - - - - 550
100 lbs. Tria weight were equal to Venetian lbs. gross - - - - - - - 96
108 Ditto Do. troy - - - - - - - - 163

The Venetian bushel of currants (not grain), equal to 260 Venetian light pounds, corresponded to 173 lbs. Tria weight.

Two lbs. silk yarn Venetian weight made 1lb. according to the English silk weight.

From 22 to 23, Messina ounces, corresponded to 1 lbs. English silk weight.

Nineteen ounces and a half Venetian light weight of dyed silk corresponded to 1lb. English silk weight.

Seventeen ounces Venetian light weight of spices corresponded to 1lb. English weight.

IV. The English cloth yard corresponded to five quarters Venetian measure ; but including the surplus given invariably by clothiers, it amounted to five quarters and one third.

One hundred English yards corresponded to 133 Venetian "braccie."

Seventy-five English yards made 100 Venetian "braccie."

Eighteen yards kersies, forming one piece, made 24 Venetian "braccie."

The English frieze ell (godo) made two yards Venetian cloth measure, &c.

V. 100 yards cloth of silk, Venetian measure, made 67 English yards.

25 yards cloth of silk, Venetian measure, made 16 yards and $\frac{1}{4}$ English measure.

6 yards cloth of silk, Venetian measure, made 4 yards English.

1 yard and a half cloth of silk, Venetian measure made one yard English.

25 yards of every sort of wimple silks (zendadi) corresponded to from 18 and $\frac{1}{4}$ to 19 yards English measure. (b)

---

(a) "Vendesi lana a saccho, che sacco uno sono chiovi 52, et ogni chiovo pesa libbre 7, di Londra ; et ogni libbra è once sedici di TRIA, et non intendere di TROYS (*and mistake not Tria for Troyes*). (See Francesco de Dino, Chostumi di Londra, &c. Firenze adi 10 di Dicembre, 1481.)

(b) The table of weights and measures, published at Venice by Bartholomeo di Paxi on the 25th July 1503, is not always in accordance with the present standard, but may nevertheless serve to give some idea of the mode in which commercial exchanges were effected between the two countries throughout the 14th and 15th centuries.

## TABLE No. 7.

DIPLOMATIC AGENTS accredited by the Crowns of ENGLAND and SCOTLAND and by GREAT BRITAIN to the REPUBLIC OF VENICE.

| Agent's Name. | By whom accredited. | Date of Credentials. | Date of arrival in Venice. | Date of letter of recall. | Date of Departure from Venice. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointments, &c., and General Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FRIAR RICHARD, BISHOP OF BISACCIA (in the Neapolitan territories), chaplain, and of the household of King Robert of Naples. | Edward III. | 1340 | April, 1340 | - - | - - | Venice Archives, "Commemoriali." vol. 3, p. 171. |
| ANONYMOUS ENVOY. | Richard II. | 1382 | February | - - | - - | Venice Archives, "Misti Senato," Vol. 38, p. 12. |
| ANONYMOUS AMBASSADORS, TWO. (Extraordinary) | Henry IV. | 1406 | January 1406–7 | - - | - - | Venice Archives, "Misti Senato" (Miscellaneous Acts of the Senate), vol. 47, p. 91 recto. |
| ANONYMOUS ENVOY. | Edward V. | 1472 | May 21 | - - | - - | Venice Archives, "Senato Mar," vol. 9, p. 134. |
| CHRISTOPHER URSWICK, Ambassador Extraordinary. | Henry VII. | 1486–7 | 1487 | - - | - - | St. Mark's Library: Letter from Zaccaria Contarini, Ambassador to the Emperor Maximilian. Date Augsburg, 30 April 1496. |
| ANONYMOUS AMBASSADOR. | Henry VII. | - - | December 1502 | - - | - - | St. Mark's Library: Sanuto's Diaries, vol. 4, p. 176, 179. Sanuto mentions that the Ambassador was on his return from Hungary; and from another passage in the Diaries, date 31 January 1502–3, it may be inferred that this diplomatist was Dr. Thomas West, that he had accompanied Christopher Urswick to Venice in 1487, and that his mission to Hungary in 1502 concerned Richard de la Pole, or his brother Edmund. |

| Agent's Name. | By whom accredited. | Date of Credentials. | Date of arrival in Venice. | Date of letter of recall. | Date of departure from Venice. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointments, &c., and General Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| MARCO ALVISE, ENVOY. | James IV. of Scotland. | - - | 1506 | - - | - - | Sanuto's Diaries, vol. 6, p. 331. 30 December 1506. |
| ANONYMOUS ENVOY. | Henry VII. | - - | December 1508 | - - | - - | Sanuto's Diaries, vol. 7, p. 525. This mission concerned wine of Wippach, (3 leagues N of Trieste) for the King's own use. |
| SIR THOMAS NEWPORT and SIR THOMAS —— [SHEFFIELD?] Knights of Rhodes. | Henry VIII. | - - - | Sept. 3, 1513 | - - | - | Sanuto's Diaries, vol. 17, p. 8–10. These Knights were on their way to Rhodes, and presented letters both of credence and recommendation from Henry VIII. to Doge Loredano. |
| RICHARD PACE, Ambassador Lieger (oratorem legatum ambasiatorem), and Plenipotentiary. | Henry VIII. | 1522 March 12, London. | August 1522 | - - | October 1525 | Venice Archives: "Patti varij" (miscellaneous unregistered treaties) and Sanuto's Diaries. In the Senate's Registers, Land, date 23 June 1523, we find Pace requesting the Signory to grant a privilege to the famous Greek scholar Nicolo Leonico Torneo to publish a Latin version of Aristotle's "*Parva Naturalia.*" |
| VINCENT CASSALIS (Prothonotary), Ambassador in ordinary. | Henry VIII. | 1525 | January 1525–6 | - - | After Sept. 1533 | St. Mark's Library: Sanuto's Diaries. |
| SIR GREGORY CASSALIS, Ambassador Extraordinary. | Henry VIII. | 1527 | June 1527 | - - | July 1527 | St. Mark's Library: Sanuto's Diaries. |
| SIR GREGORY CASSALIS. | Cardinal Wolsey.[1] | 1527 August 27, Amboise. | Embassy performed at Ferrara on the 15th Nov. 1527. | - - | - - - | Venice Archives: "Commemoriali," vol. 21, p. 61. |

[1] Wolsey, in this "large commission to Gregory de Cassalis," styling himself, among his other titles, the King's Lieutenant-General, and reciting that Henry VIII. had appointed him to that office, and had granted him the amplest diplomatic powers to treat and conclude with every Sovereign of Christendom, "*cum facultate et auctoritate substituendi quamcumque personam idoneam esse censuerimus*, then proceeds: "Notum

| Agent's Name. | By whom accredited. | Date of Credentials. | Date of Arrival in Venice. | Date of Letter of Recall. | Date of Departure from Venice. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c., and General Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| RICHARD CROKE, and JOHN STOKESLEY, Bishop elect of London, Ambassadors Extraordinary. | Henry VIII. | 1530 | June 1530 | - - | August 1530 | Venice Archives: "Parti Secreti" (secret motions) Council of Ten, and Sanuto's Diaries. |
| SIGISMUND, alias EDMUND HARVEL. | Henry VIII. and Edward VI. | 1535–1546 | 1536 | - - | Deceased at Venice, in the parish of St. Jeremiah, January 1549–50. | Venice Archives; "Esposizioni Principi," vol. 1, p. 9. "Deliberazioni Senato" (Senate's decrees), 8 June, 1546. Book of Ceremonies of St. Mark's church, p. 315. Ellis's Letters, series 2, vol. 2, p. 70. Turnbull's Calendar (1547–1553) passim. Information received at Venice in January, 1858, from Rev. J. S. Brewer. |
| LODOVICO DALLE ARME, a Venetian nobleman (Agent Extraordinary). | Henry VIII. | 1546 | 1546 June. | - - | - | Venice Archives; "Deliberazioni Senato," 8 June and 17 December 1546. |
| PETER VANNES - | Edward VI. and Queen Mary, also Philip and Mary. | 1550 8 August, and 1553. | 1550 October. | - - | 1556 November. | Venice Archives; Register of the Council of Ten, and correspondence.— Letter of the ambassador Giovanni Michiel, date London, 4 January, 1556–57. — Turnbull's Calendar, passim. |
| ANTHONY BROWNE, first Viscount Montague of England (Ambassador Extraordinary on his return from Rome). | Philip and Mary. | 1555 | 1555 June. | - - | - - | Venice Archives; Register (Comuni) Council of Ten, and Lord Hardwicke's State Papers, vol. 1, p. 62 to p. 102. |

facimus quod nos plene confidentes de probitate, fide, prudentia, circumspectione, industriaque magnifici Domini Gregory Equitis Casalis eiusdem Serenissimi Regis consiliarij, eum vigore predicti nostri mandati verum ac legitimum deputatum nostrum, constituimus per præsentes, plenamque facultatem ei dedimus et concessimus, ac tenore præsentium damus et concedimus," etc. etc.

| Agent's Name. | By whom accredited. | Date of Credentials. | Date of Arrival in Venice. | Date of Letter of Recall. | Date of Departure from Venice. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c., and General Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| JOHN OGLEBY, Baron of Pury (Agent Extraordinary). | James VI. of Scotland. | 1595 | 1595 November. | - - | - - - | Venice Archives; "Esposizioni Principi," January 23, 1595-6. Memoirs of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, by Thomas Birch, vol. 1, p. 407 to p. 421; vol. 2. p. 22. |
| SIR WILLIAM KEITH (Agent Extraordinary). | James VI. of Scotland. | 1595 30 Sept., Falkland. | 1595-6 January. | - - | - - | Venice Archives; Communications from the Council of Ten to the Senate 16, 19 January 1595-6, and "Esposizioni Principi," 25 January 1595-6. —Birch as above, vol. 2, p. 417. |
| SIR WILLIAM KEITH (2d Mission, Agent Extraordinary). | James VI. of Scotland. | 1596 31 Dec., Holyrood. | 1598 May. | - | - - | Venice Archives; "Esposizioni Principi," 29 May 1598. |
| ROBERT LORD CRICHTON of SANQUHAR. | James VI. of Scotland. | 1598 | 1598 August. | - - | - - | Venice *Archives*; vol. 1 "Cerimoniali," p. 195 tergo, 25 August 1598. |
| SIR ANTHONY STANDEN, Knt. | James I. of Great Britain. | 1603 25 June, Greenwich. | 1603 August. | - - | 1603 September. | Venice Archives; File, No. 33, letters Kings and Queens of England. |
| SIR HENRY WOTTON, Knt. | James I. - | 1604 30 June, Westminster. | 1604 September. | 1610 13 August, Westminster. | 1610 December. | Venice Archives; File No. 33, letters as above. |
| SIR DUDLEY CARLETON, Knt. | James I. - | 1610 13 Aug., Westminster. | 1610 December. | 1615 4 Sept., Windsor. | 1615 October. | Venice Archives; File No. 33, as above; and File "Esposizioni Principi." |
| SIR HENRY WOTTON (2d mission). | James I. - | 1615-16 4 Jan., Westminster. | 1616 June. | 1619 7 March, Westminster. | 1619 May.[1] | Venice Archives; File "Esposizioni Principi," and File No. 33, as above. |
| GREGORIO MONTI (a Venetian), Secretary resident. | Sir Henry Wotton. | 1619 5 May. | - - | - - | - - | "Esposizioni Principi" passim. |

[1] On the 5th May, 1619, Sir Henry Wotton, on taking leave, presented the Venetian, Gregorio Monti, to the Signory as secretary; in which capacity he acted until Wotton's return in March, 1621. Monti died at Venice, in February 1621-2. (See Esposizioni Principi.) In the "Esposizioni Principi," date 5 May, 1619, the precise words of Wotton, on his taking leave of Doge Antonio Priuli, and accrediting Monti, are recorded thus: "Lascierò di quà Gregorio de Monti, persona assai prattica e discreta, "della Serà. V^ra ben conosciuta, che supplirà a quanto potesse occorrer; anzi in ciò può comprender la "nostra sincere intentione, e può veder il nostro sincero proceder, quando si valemo de' proprij suoi

| Agent's Name. | By whom accredited. | Date of Credentials. | Date of Arrival in Venice. | Date of Letter of Recall. | Date of Departure from Venice. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c., and General Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sir Henry Wotton (3d mission). | James I. - | 1620 3 June, Greenwich. | 1621 March. | 1623 20 May, Greenwich. | 1623 September. | Venice Archives; File No. 33 as above, and File "Esposizioni Principi." |
| Sir Izaak Wake | James I. - | 1624 31 March. | 1624 December. | - - | 1628 October. | Venice Archives; File "Esposizioni Principi." |
| James Hay Earl of Carlisle, Ambassador Extraordinary. | Charles I. - | 1628 10 April. | 1628 29 August. | - - | 1628 October. | " " |
| Thomas Rowlanson, Secretary Resident. | Sir Izaak Wake and Charles I. | 1629 13 Jan., Turin, and 1631 31 July, Greenwich. | 1624 December, as secretary to Sir Izaak Wake. | 1634 17 Sept. Theobalds. | 1636 April | " " |
| Jerome Weston (son of the Lord Treasurer), Ambassador Extraordinary. | Charles I. - | 1632 15 July, Oatlands. | 1632 November. | - - | 1632 November. | " " |
| Basil Viscount Fielding, Ambassador Extraordinary. | Charles I. - | 1634 14 Sept. | 1635 February. | 1637 28 Nov., Westminster. | 1638 March. | Venice Archives; "Esposizioni Principi." Register. |
| Gilbert Talbot, Secretary Resident. | Viscount Fielding. | 1638 8 March, Venice. | Query, as secretary with Lord Fielding in February 1635. | Superseded by the return of Lord Fielding in February 1639. | After Lord Fielding's return as Ambassador in Feb. 1638–9, Talbot remained as his secretary. | " " |
| Viscount Fielding, Ambassador Extraordinary. | Charles I. - | 1638–9 18 Jan., Westminster. | 1638–9 February. | 1638–9 4 February, Westminster. | 1639 April. | Venice Archives; "Esposizioni Principi." Files. |

"sudditi senz' ombra o gelosia di sorte alcuna." At the close of his audience, Wotton added: "Desidero "poi che resti fermato questo punto del rimaner Gregorio Monti, al quale la Serenità vostra si com- "piacerà dar grata audienza in quelle cose che occorreranno." The Doge replied: "Il Secretario Monti "sarà sempre ben veduto per parte di chi rappresenta, come richiede l'osservanza verso il Re suo Signore; "e passando l'ambasciatore altre parole di complimento, e presentato il Secretario Gregorio Monti, prese "l'ambasciatore licenza e partì." In date 2 August 1619, Monti announced to the Doge the receipt of a letter from the secretary, Sir Robert Naunton, (a proof that Wotton's appointment had been acknowledged at home,) and he added that he did not understand one word of English, and that he had had the letter translated "dal solito mio mercante." In 1850, Mr. Geo. Tomline printed for the Roxburghe Club some of Monti's letters, written from Venice to Sir Robt. Naunton, in this very year 1619.

| Agent's Name. | By whom accredited. | Date of Credentials. | Date of Arrival in Venice. | Date of Letter of Recall. | Date of Departure from Venice. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c., and General Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| GILBERT TALBOT, Secretary Resident. | Viscount Fielding. | 1639 15 April Venice. | Qu. With Lord Fielding as secretary in February 1635. | - - | 1644 27 May. | Venice Archives; "Esposizioni Principi." Register. |
| SIR GILBERT TALBOT, Envoy. | Charles I. - | 1644–5 5 Jan. Oxford. | 1645 April | - - | 1645 May. | Venice Archives; "Esposizioni Principi." Files. |
| THOMAS KILLIGREW, Resident. | Charles II. - | 1649 26 Aug. St. Germain. | 1649–50 Feb. | 1652 14 March Paris. | 1652 27 June. | " " |
| THOMAS BELLASIS VISCOUNT FAUCONBERG, Ambassador Extraordinary. | Charles II. - | 1669–70 2 Jan. Westminster. | 1670 June. | - - | 1670 Sept. | " " |
| JOHN DODDINGTON, Secretary Resident. | Charles II. - | 1670 16 Sept. Westminster. | 1670 June, as secretary to Lord Fauconberg. | 1672 29 April Westminster. | 1672 Nov. | " " |
| SIR THOMAS HIGGONS, Knt., M.P., Envoy Extraordinary. | Charles II. - | 1673 3 Sept. Westminster. | 1674 July. | - - | 1677 May. | " " |
| BEVILL SKELTON, Esq., Envoy Extraordinary. | James II. - | 1668–89 26 Feb. St. Germain. | 1689 May. | - - | 1689 27 May. | " " |
| CHARLES MONTAGU, fourth Earl (first Duke) of MANCHESTER, Ambassador Extraordinary. | William III. | 1697 21 April Kensington | 1697 Dec. | - - | 1698 22 March. | " " |
| CHARLES MONTAGU Earl of MANCHESTER, (2nd mission,) Ambassador Extraordinary. | Queen Anne | 1706–7 20 Jan. Kensington | 1707 4 July. | 1708 20 July Windsor. | 1708 Sept. | " " |
| CHRISTIAN COLE, Secretary Resident. | Queen Anne | 1708 31 July Windsor. | 1707 July, as secretary to the Earl of Manchester. | 1713 30 Nov. Windsor. | 1714 Aug. | " " |

| Agent's Name. | By whom accredited. | Date of Credentials. | Date of Arrival in Venice. | Date of Letter of Recall. | Date of Departure from Venice. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c., and General Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CHRISTIAN COLE, Esq., Secretary Resident (2nd mission). | George I. - | - - | 1715 May. | 1715 3 Aug. St. James'. | 1715 Sept. | Venice Archives; "Esposizioni Principi." Files. |
| ALEXANDER CUNNINGHAM, Esq., Secretary Resident. | George I. - | - - | 1716 prior to June. | 1719 8 & 9 May St. James'. | 1719 19. Oct. | " " |
| ELIZEUS BURGESS, Esq., Secretary Resident. | George I. - | 1719 8 & 9 May St. James'. | 1719 Oct. | 1721 31 Oct. St. James'. | 1722 March. | " " |
| FERDINAND CRIVELLI, Agent. | George I. - | 1726 8 & 19 Feb. St. James'. | 1726 Dec. | - - | - - | " " |
| COLONEL ELIZEUS, BURGES, Secretary Resident. | George II. - | - - | 1728 18 Dec. | Died at Venice on the evening of Wednesday the 14th Nov. 1736, and his tombstone is yet visible within the fortress of S. Nicolò on the Lido. | | " " The ambassadorial statements from 1722 to 1738 make it appear that during that interval the Consul Neil Brown acted occasionally as Chargé d'affaires. In the ambassadorial statements from 1739 to 1743 there is no mention of any diplomatic or commercial agent accredited by Great Britain to the Republic of Venice during that interval. |
| ROBERT D'ARCY, fourth Earl of HOLDERNESS, Ambassador Extraordinary. | George II. - | 1744 31 June Kensington. | 1744 29 Oct. | 1745 25 March St. James'. | 1745 30 April. | Venice Archives; "Esposizioni Principi." Files, and file No. 33, letters Kings and Queens of England. |
| SIR JAMES GRAY, Bart., Secretary Resident. | George II. - | 1746 17 March St. James'. | 1746 May. | 1753 24 Sept. | 1753 27 Nov. | " " |
| JOHN MURRAY, Esq., Secretary Resident. | George II. - | 1754 19 July Kensington | 1754 14 Dec. | 1765 26 Nov. St. James'. | 1766 5 May. | " " |
| CHARLES COMPTON, seventh Earl of NORTHAMPTON, Ambassador Extraordinary. | George III. - | 1762 26 Aug. St. James'. | 1762 Oct. | 1763 8 May St. James'. | 1763 June. | " " |

| Agent's Name. | By whom accredited. | Date of Credentials. | Date of Arrival in Venice. | Date of Letter of Recall. | Date of Departure from Venice. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c., and General Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sir James Wright, Bart., Secretary Resident. | George III. | 1766 4 July. St. James'. | 1766 Oct. | 1773 15 Oct. St. James'. | 1773 June. | Venice Archives; "Esposizioni Principi." Files, and file No. 33, letters Kings and Queens of England. During the absence of Sir James Wright, from June 1769 to August 1771, the post of Chargé d'affaires at Venice was filled by Sir Robert Richie, and on the final departure of Sir James Wright, in June 1769, the Consul John Udny acted as Chargé d'affaires until the arrival of John Strange in Sept. 1774.[1] |
| John Strange, Esq., Secretary Resident. | George III. | 1773 15 Oct. St. James'. | 1774 Sept. | 1790 25 Feb. St. James'. | 1786 3 April. | Venice Archives; "Esposizioni Principi." Files, and file No. 34, letters Kings and Queens of England. |
| Sir Francis Vincent, Bart., Secretary Resident. | George III. | 1790 25 Feb. St. James'. | 1790 30 June | Died (apparently in the neighbourhood of Venice) on the 17th August 1791, and his tombstone is yet visible within the fortress of St. Nicolo on the Lido. | - - | " " |
| Sir Richard Wolsey, Bart., Secretary Resident. | George III. | 1793 24 Oct. St. James'. | 1793 5 Dec. | - - | 1797 12 May with a passport signed by the French secretary Villetard. | Venice Archives; "Esposizioni Principi." Files, and file No. 34, letters Kings and Queens of England; and printed volumes entitled "Memoria degli ultimi otto anni della Repubblica di Venezia." London, 1798, pp. 376, 377. |

[1] By the letters of the secretary Luigi Ballarin, written from Venice to the ambassador Dolfin in Paris, date 14 Feb. 1784, it appears that for resigning the post of Secretary Resident, Sir James Wright received from his successor an annuity of 300*l*. (*See* Lr. No. 185 MS. in the possession of Cavr. Toderini.)

## TABLE No. 8.

### List of English Consuls at Venice attested by Documents in the Archives there.

| Consul's Name. | Date of his Employment. | By whom appointed. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Anonymous - - | 1608 to 1620. | English merchants resident in Venice. | Register *Cinque Savij alla Mercanzia*, No. 20, p. 96. |
| Thomas Gunter - | 1620, 17 October to 1629. | Sir Henry Wotton and the Trinity House. | Register *Cinque Savij alla Mercanzia*, No. 20, p. 96. |
| Thomas Rowlanson | 1629 to 1635 | - - - | Register *Cinque Savij alla Mercanzia*, No. 20, p. 96. |
| Ottavio Robazzi - | 1635, February, to 1646. | Basil Viscount Fielding. | Register *Cinque Savij alla Mercanzia*, No. 20, p. 96. |
| Michael Francis - | 1646 to June 1648. | - - - | Register *Cinque Savij alla Mercanzia*, No. 21, p. 36. Tergo. |
| Joseph Kent - - | 1648 to 1652, 20 May. | Thomas Killigrew | Register *Cinque Savij alla Mercanzia*, No. 21, p. 12. |
| Walter Wolf - | 1652, 20 May to 1653. | - - - | Register *Cinque Savij alla Mercanzia*, No. 21, p. 12. |
| John Hobson - - | 1654 to 1660. | Trinity House and the Lord Protector Oliver Cromwell. | Register *Cinque Savij alla Mercanzia*, No. 21, p. 36. Paulucci despatches, London, 7 Nov. 1654, No. 5, and Sagredo despatches, 7 January 1656. |
| Gideon sive Giles Jones. | 1660 to 1670. | King Charles II. - | Register *Cinque Savij alla Mercanzia*, No. 21, p. 179. |
| George Hailes - | 1670 to ——. | King Charles II. - | Ambassadorial statements (*Esposizioni Principi*), file 23 June 1670 and *Cinque Savij alla Mercanzia*. Register No. 24, p. 116. |
| Thomas Hobson - | 1685 to 1689. | King James II. - | Senate's journals, 21 August 1688. Venice, news letter, 17 July 1688. Ambassadorial statements (*Esposizioni Principi*), 7 May 1689, p. 14. |
| Hugh Broughton - | 1690 to 1716. | King William III. | Register *Cinque Savij alla Mercanzia*, No. 30, p. 326. Register *Cinque Savij alla Mercanzia*, No. 40. |

| Consul's Name. | Date of his Employment. | By whom appointed. | Documentary Evidence proving the Appointment, &c. |
|---|---|---|---|
| NEIL BROWN - - | 1723 to 1738. | King George I. - | Register *V. Savij alla Mercanzia*, No. 41, 1723, 15 April. (*Esposizioni Principi*). Ambassadorial statements, 1722, 29 April and 1736, 15 November. From the Register Cinque Savij, date 15 April 1723, as likewise from Burke's Extinct Baronetage, it may be inferred that this Neil Brown had also the christian name of Robert, and that, having acted as Secretary resident, he assumed that title in the patent which created him a baronet, A.D. 1731–32, although the official post which he filled at Venice limited itself apparently to the Consulate so far as the evidence of Venetian documents is concerned. |
| JOSEPH SMITH - - - - | | King George II. - | Ambassadorial statements, (*Esposizioni Principi*,) 1744, 6 June. Register V. Savij alla Mercanzia, No. 10, p. 199, 1760–61, 7 February. |
| JOHN UDNY. (He acted as Chargé d'affaires from July to Sept. 1773.) | 1760–61 to 1779. | King George III. - | Register V. Savij, date 1760–61, p. 199. Ambassadorial statements (*Esposizioni Principi*) 1779–80, 9 February. Although Robert Richie was appointed Consul in December 1776, it appears by the ambassadorial statements, date 9 February 1779–80, that Udny was yet at Venice in 1779, when the English government transferred him elsewhere. |
| ROBERT RICHIE - | 1776–78–80 to 1790, November 29. | King George III. - | Ambassadorial statements (*Esposizioni Principi*) 1776. Burial Register (*Libro Necrologio*), Nos. 185 e 977, dei Provveditori alla Sanità.) Robert Richie acted as English Chargé d'affaires at Venice from June 1769 to August 1771, and again from April 1786 until June 1790. |
| JOHN WATSON - | 1790, November 30, to 1797, May 12. | Sir Francis Vincent, Baronet. | Ambassadorial statements (Esposizioni Principi). |

## TABLE No. 9.

### Chronological Table of the Marciana Copy of Marin Sanuto's Diaries.

| Volumes. | Period. | Pages of Matter. | Pages of Indexes. | Volumes | Period. | Pages of Matter. | Pages of Indexes. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1495–96, January, and ends 28 Feruary 1497. | 629 | 28 | 18 | 1514, 1 March, and ends August 1514. | 427 | 80 |
| 1 Part II. | 1498, 1 March, and ends Sept. 1498. | 178 | 20 | 19 | 1514, 1 Sept., and ends Feb. 1514–15. | 332 | 68 |
| 2 | 1498, 1 October, and ends Sept. 1499. | 1,012 | 66 | 20 | 1515, 1 March, and ends August 1515. | 527 | 41 |
| 3 | 1499, 1 October, and ends March 1501. | 1,176 | 62 | 21 | 1515, 1 Sept., and ends Feb. 1515–16. | 505 | 180 |
| 4 | 1501, 1 April, and ends March 1503. | 606 | 135 | 22 | 1516, 1 March, and ends Sept. 1516. | 589 | 114 |
| 5 | 1503, 1 April, and ends March 1504. | 744 | 154 | 23 | 1516, 1 October, and ends Feb. 1516–17. | 464 | 72 |
| 6 | 1504, 1 April, and ends Feb. 1506, 7. | 380 | 97 | 24 | 1517, 1 March, and ends Sept. 1517. | 607 | 135 |
| 7 | 1507, 1 March, and ends Feb. 1508, 9. | 590 | 100 | 25 | 1517, 1 October, and ends August 1518. | 565 | 136 |
| 8 | 1509, 1 March, and ends July 1509. | 457 | 164 | 26 | 1518, 1 Sept., and ends Feb. 1518–19. | 466 | 106 |
| 9 | 1509, 1 August, and ends Feb. 1509–10. | 442 | 67 | 27 | 1519, 1 March, and ends Sept. 1519. | 521 | 110 |
| 10 | 1510, 1 March, and ends July 1510. | 765 | 103 | 28 | 1519, 1 October, and ends June 1520. | 552 | 139 |
| 11 | 1510, 1 August, and ends Feb. 1510–11. | 618 | 93 | 29 | 1520, 1 July, and ends Feb. 1520–21. | 609 | 138 |
| 12 | 1511, 1 March, and ends Sept. 1511. | 505 | 88 | 30 | 1521, 1 March, and ends 7 July 1521. | 338 | 104 |
| 13 | 1511, 1 October, and ends Feb. 1511–12. | 411 | 55 | 31 | 1521, 7 July, and ends Sept. 1521. | 404 | 102 |
| 14 | 1512, 1 March, and ends August 1512. | 537 | 151 | 32 | 1521, 1 October, and ends Feb. 1521–22. | 360 | 91 |
| 15 | 1512, 1 Sept., and ends Feb. 1512–13. | 582 | 146 | 33 | 1522, 1 March, and ends Feb. 1522–23. | 579 | 111 |
| 16 | 1513, 1 March, and ends August 1513. | 668 | 84 | 34 | 1523, 1 March, and ends Sept. 1523. | 375 | 79 |
| 17 | 1513, 1 Sept., and ends Feb, 1513–14, | 539 | 78 | 35 | 1523, 1 October, and ends Feb. 1523–24. | 332 | 73 |

| Volumes. | Period. | Pages of Matter. | Pages of Indexes. | Volumes. | Period. | Pages of Matter. | Pages of Indexes. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 36 | 1524, 1 March, and ends Sept. 1524. | 444 | 108 | 48 | 1528, 1 June, and ends Sept. 1528. | 433 | 90 |
| 37 | 1524, 1 October, and ends Feb. 1524–25. | 518 | 99 | 49 | 1528, 1 October, and ends Feb. 1528–29. | 404 | 77 |
| 38 | 1525, 1 March, and ends May 1525. | 301 | 57 | 50 | 1529, 1 March, and ends June 1529. | 433 | 88 |
| 39 | 1525, 1 June, and ends Sept. 1525. | 557 | 65 | 51 | 1529, 1 July, and ends Sept. 1529. | 450 | 80 |
| 40 | 1525, 1 October, and ends Feb. 1525–26. | 694 | 142 | 52 | 1529, 1 October, and ends Feb. 1529–30. | 501 | 63 |
| 41 | 1526, 1 March, and ends June 1526. | 581 | 80 | 53 | 1530, 1 March, and ends Sept. 1530. | 357 | 77 |
| 42 | 1526, 1 July, and ends Sept. 1526. | 582 | 115 | 54 | 1530, 1 October, and ends Sept. 1531. | 717 | 134 |
| 43 | 1526, 1 October, and ends Jan. 1526–27. | 494 | 103 | 55 | 1531, 1 October, and ends March 1532. | 437 | 118 |
| 44 | 1527, 1 Feb., 1526–27, and ends April, 1527. | 345 | 66 | 56 | 1532, 1 April and ends Sept. 1532. | 606 | 77 |
| 45 | 1527, 1 May, and ends August 1527. | 508 | 97 | 57 | 1532, 1 October, and ends March 1533. | 484 | 96 |
| 46 | 1527, 1 Sept., and ends Feb. 1527–28. | 526 | 125 | 58 | 1533, 1 April, and ends Sept. 1533. | 474 | 64 |
| 47 | 1528, 1 March, and ends May 1528. | 423 | 91 | | | | |

# No. 10.

## Specimen of Ancient Calendars.

### Despatch.

A.D. 1624, July 4, [N.S.] Madrid.

Letter No. 306. File No. 58. Despatches Spain.

Most Serene Prince,

I, Moro, (1) having made the necessary preparations for presenting myself to the King, we have been all this time pressing for audience of his majesty, but are unable to attain it until to-morrow, this delay being caused by the numerous festivals spiritual and temporal which in this country are solemnized all alike. In the meanwhile I have been visited by the representatives of the powers here resident, with the exception of the ambassadors from Germany and France. This last was prevented by a serious illness which seized him on my first arrival, and augmented in such wise that fears were entertained for his life, though he now begins to rally, and after my audience, provided always that he choose to admit me, I shall go to visit him, as on account of this impediment I do not think it fitting to abide by the usual punctilio which entitles me to receive the first visit.

The Imperial ambassador (2) although on our meeting repeatedly in the Chapel Royal, and at the houses of the nuncio and the French ambassador, he told me, Cornaro, several times that he meant to come, and would assuredly pay his compliments to me, Moro; giving this to be understood even in the presence of the ministers aforesaid; and although he repeated it to me yesterday morning in his own house, where I deemed it advisable to anticipate the usual and necessary ceremony of taking leave of him for the sake of rendering the visit more obligatory, yet notwithstanding has he never made his appearance. The delay of so many days must assuredly be intentional and for some object, and we are of opinion that he aims at meeting me, Moro, for the first time in chapel, there to see how I address him (3), and then take counsel: but this caution necessarily implies the intention of some change, and of taking vantage ground, considering a neutral territory the best suited to similar innovation, and that of the chapel more fitting than my own house. I will keep on the watch to avoid any disparagement of grade, as your Excellencies command me, and, if by any means possible, not dissolve the intercourse; though I much regret that in addition there should be this untoward illness of the French ambassador who otherwise would have been in chapel between us; and with him I could have occupied myself; but now, I am of necessity compelled to sit beside the Imperialist, and either keep perpetual silence, which everybody would remark, or else talk freely with him. (4)

During the visits paid me by these other ministers, I elicited nothing whatever from their conversation worth repeating to your Excellencies, save that the nuncio, touching accidentally on the affair of the Valtellina, began saying that the clauses stipulated lately at Rome by his Holiness were good and reasonable; that with some little modification they might be admitted; that it was

(1) The ambassador Moro had recently arrived at Madrid as the successor of Alvise Cornaro.

(2) Francis Christopher Khevenhüller, author of the "Annales Ferdinandei." His squabble with the Venetian ambassador Moro, which took place on the Sunday following the date of this letter, is described by Wicquefort, "L'ambassadeur et ses fonctions," vol. 2, p. 19. Khevenhüller was Count of Frankenburg, and at the time of his assault on Moro, 35 years old; the affray took place at a time when great stress was laid on placing and titles.

(3) Meaning by what title.

(4) Khevenhüller claimed the title of "*Excellency*," but had determined merely to give that of "*Illustrissimo*" to Moro, who was ordered to insist on reciprocity in this matter, and hence arose the scuffle alluded to by Wicquefort.

### Calendar.

A.D. 1624, July 4, [N.S.] Madrid.

In letters of the ambassadors, Cornaro and Moro, 4 July 1624. No. 306, from Madrid.

That the ambassador has pressed for audience of his majesty, but cannot obtain it until to-morrow.

That he has received all the visits of the representatives of the powers resident here, with the exception of the ambassadors of Germany and France.

That the one from France did not visit the ambassador Moro, because he was seriously indisposed.

German ambassador does not visit the ambassador Moro, and his ends.

That the one from Germany, although he told the ambassador Cornaro and others, that he meant to compliment the ambassador Moro, has never made his appearance, it being supposed that his object is to effect the first interview in chapel, to see how he treats him with regard to title.

Ambassador Moro on the watch.

That the ambassador Moro will be cautious to avoid disparagement, and execute the orders of the state.

Nuncio discusses the affair of the Valtellina.

That at the visits received from the other ministers of the powers, the nuncio commenced by saying about the affair of the Valtellina, that the articles drawn up at Rome were good and reasonable; that his holiness had always had in view the interests of the Catholic religion; and that for the rest, as the forts were to be razed, and the passes to be opened, the interests of all parties remained in surety.

Reply of the ambassador Moro.

That as it was the first interview he did not choose to enter into certain details, but said thus, in general terms, that the safe and fitting plan would be to replace matters *in pristino*, and leave them as they were during so many centuries; and that it was never well to confound the interests of religion with those of state, but rather to keep all causes of disturbance and innovation at a distance from Italy.

Expectation of ambassador from Denmark.

That an ambassador from Denmark was expected at the court from day to day, it being reported that he is coming to

necessary to have due regard for the interests of the [Catholic] religion; that on this his Holiness had been intent; and that for the rest, as the forts were to be razed, and the passes to be opened, the interests of all parties were secure.

At a first interview, and this conversation being accidental, I did not chuse to enter into certain particulars, but answered him in general terms, and with a certain smile on my countenance, thus:

"Most Illustrious Lord, the proper and sure way would be to replace matters *in pristino*, and let them remain as they were during so many centuries: for experience showed clearly that it is never well to confound church policy with that of state, and the greatest service which can be rendered to the Catholic Religion will always consist in ever keeping at a distance from Italy all opportunity for tumult and innovation."

His most illustrious lordship could only answer me that it was true, and I thought fit to start another topic.

An ambassador from Denmark is expected here daily: a report circulates to the effect that he is coming to negotiate peace between the Lord's States and this Crown: certain ministers have been heard to say that his offers purport their readiness to acknowledge this Crown; but that they insist on permission to navigate in the Indies, and on mutual liberty of conscience as well in provinces subject to his majesty as in those now ruled by the States. The coming of this ambassador is certain; with regard to the reality of these terms that we are unable to assert authentically.

The resolve taken, as I, Cornaro, wrote, to return the jewels left for the Infanta by the Prince of Wales on his departure, was executed; D. Andres de Prada having been to the house of the English ambassador (1) to consign them, delivering to him likewise the reply to the protest (2), which reply I enclose, and it agrees with the statement already made. He, moreover, counted to him one by one, some fifteen letters, which bore no marks of having been opened, and which had been sent by that Prince to said Infanta, saying that the Catholic King being acquainted with His Britannic Majesty's sentiment and actions, it did not appear fitting to him to retain so considerable an amount of precious jewels, as they had been accepted solely for the marriage.

The ambassador received the whole, declaring that he acted as trustee, in order hereafter to execute such orders as shall be given him; but this proceeding of the Spaniards perplexes him vastly; and he confesses, that having had some hint of the matter a few days previously, he endeavoured to prevent it.

With regard to the statement made by the ambassador from Mantua concerning the wish to know the King's pleasure about the arrangement made with Savoy, he has been answered that as it is not to take effect for eight years his majesty might delay declaring himself until then; but that nevertheless before proclaiming his desire and interference, he wishes to know what towns it is purposed to assign the Duke of Savoy, as there are many on those borders which would prejudice his interests; and that, in the next place, the world would marvel that the Duke of Mantua should accept money in payment of dower; and not in like manner by way of exchange demand places in the Langhe (*sic*), especially as it is notorious that there are several which the Duke of Mantua necessarily requires for the conjunction of his territories in the Montferrat. Such was the precise answer; whereupon the ambassador made a rejoinder to the first point alone, requesting to be informed which were the places whose alienation from his master would prove prejudicial to the King; as he would inform the Duke; but as yet the ambassador had received no farther communication.

negotiate peace between the Lord's States and this Crown, and that he is the bearer of an offer to acknowledge it; but that the States insist on permission to navigate in the Indies, and on mutual liberty of conscience.

Jewels returned to the English ambassador.

That the jewels which the Prince of Wales left for the Infanta on his departure have been returned to the English ambassador by D. Andres de Prado, together with the reply to the writing, which will accompany these present.

Restitution of letters to the aforesaid.

Moreover he counted down to him 15 letters which that Prince sent to said Infanta, without any mark of their having been opened; as the Catholic King, being aware of the disposition and conduct of the King of England, did not think fit to retain so considerable an amount of precious jewels, they having been accepted solely on account of the marriage.

Declaration of the English ambassador.

That the English ambassador received the whole, declaring that he would act as trustee, in order subsequently to execute such orders as shall be transmitted to him; but he is nevertheless perplexed by this proceeding of the Spaniards.

Reply to the Mantuan ambassador's statement.

That concerning the statement made by the Mantuan ambassador about his wish to know the King's pleasure touching the arrangement with Savoy; he was answered that, as it was not to be effected for eight years, his majesty might delay unbosoming himself until then; but that, nevertheless, before proclaiming his wish and intervention, he desired to know what towns it was purposed assigning to the Duke of Savoy, as there were many on those borders which might prejudice his interests; and that the world would marvel that the Duke of Mantua should accept money in payment of dower, and not demand an exchange of places in the Conghe (*sic*), knowing that there were several there needed by the Duke to connect his territory in the Montferrat.

The ambassador's rejoinder.

The ambassador replied solely to the first point, requesting to be informed which were those places whose alienation by his master would prejudice the King, as he would give him notice; and until now, nothing else has been said to him.

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(1) Sir Walter Aston, ambassador in ordinary. The Earl of Bristol, ambassador extraordinary, arrived in London at the end of April 1624, and was reported to have brought back all the jewels; this, however, was untrue; but a ship was sent for them afterwards, and they reached England in October 1624. [See Nichols, vol. 3, p. 973.]

(2) A document filling five pages, the copy of which had been forwarded by Cornaro to Venice in a despatch dated Madrid 2 June

Concerning the Conich of Naples, the Secretary Ceresa told me, Cornaro, on the day before yesterday, that the requisite information had not yet arrived; and he promised positively that before my departure, stringent and valid orders should be decreed for the indemnity payable to Tosi: the promise will be as usual deceitful, so I shall not await it, and purpose departing immediately after the presentation to his majesty of his Excellency Moro, not chusing to lose my passage on board the gallies, which are coming to Vinaros; nor have we anything else to notify to your Excellencies by these present, lest a courier who we are told is to be dispatched to Rome this night, should start without our letters.

Gratiæ Serenitatis vestræ, &c.

From Madrid the 4th July 1624.

Your Serenity's

LUNARDO MORO,
ALVISE CORNER,
Ambassadors.

Promises of the secretary Ceresa.

That the Secretary Ceresa said, concerning the affair of the Conich at Naples, that the information demanded had not been received, and he promised positively that stringent and effective orders should be issued for indemnifying Tosi.

*(Translated from page* 11 *(tergo) and following of the* CALENDAR. *Spain, No.* 9, *from* 1624 *to* 1627.

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## CONJECTURAL TRANSLATION OF SOME OF THE NAMES ON THE CHART OF ANDREA BIANCO.

COAST FROM LANDSEND.

| | |
|---|---|
| Alixart | Lizard. |
| Falamua | Falmouth. |
| Godiman | St. Germans (?). |
| Fabie | Fowey. |
| Cao de Rame | Rame Head. |
| Premua | Plymouth. |
| Gotiffer | ——— |
| Altamua | Dartmouth. |
| Coers | Torbay or Dawlish (?). |
| Copasen | ——— |
| Chasetra | Exeter. |
| Ea | ——— |
| Cao de Lin | Colyton (?). |
| Llin | Lyme Regis. |
| Schopurlan | Portland. |
| Santarelmia | ——— |
| Pola | Poole or St. Alban's Head. |
| Clanmenron (mouth of a river) | ——— |
| Huic | Isle of Wight. |
| Antona | Hampton. |
| Anbre | ——— |
| Portamua | Portsmouth. |
| Oudar | ——— |
| Arendela | Arundel. |
| Soran | Shoreham. |
| Caforda | Seaford. |
| Brogep | Beachy Head. |
| Erlaga | Hastings (?). |
| Gingalaxco | Winchelsea. |
| Camera | Camber before Rye. |
| Rmaner | Romney. |
| Cobla (? Caput Doble) | The Downs. |
| Sentuci | Sandwich. |

# CALENDAR

OF

# VENETIAN AND OTHER PAPERS.

Nº I.—A.D. 1224 SEPT.—LIBER PLEGIORUM. P. 33.

Recordatorem sacet dñs dive cu suo ysdio Anno dñi. cc. xxiiij. Indic. xiij. mse septembr. de eo qđ p signoria fecim? pacari Raimundo q fuit. anglie 7 est habitatoi venet. libr. ccc xlvj. venecialiu parvulor. 7 libr. xxxiij 8 galenga. 7 libr xxij. 8 macij. 7 Cexicas. vj cemzebrate. 7 lib. xiij. 8 gardamonio. 7 Cergetas. iiij. 8 damasco. Agneti que fuit de mar filia. p eo qđ ipa pmisat dare filia ei ī vxore filio filio ipi? rai modi. 7 quia ipa pmisat ei dare libr. centum 8 parisinis. 7 alias res sedm qđ ptinet in quada recordatoe. taliter qđ vo ordine qđ ipa mulier pmisat filio pena sacramti ei 8 ddueeda ipa filia ab marsilia usq venec si ea tueniret Cnua. Unde hoc qđ dictum e fecim? ga nim nu cii mdatum? q nris litris. dno ep marsilien p cogsceda dicate si ipa vuebat ut no. 7 ipe dns eps not p suas litteras significauit qđ ipa ei filia erat defuncta

Nº II.—A.D. 1313.—INDEX MISTI SENATO VOL. I. P. 51.

.iiij.——— 1313

8.

Ipa. Adducetes drappias do ftadr en gal soluat datiu sic si adducent p tuz
de lana uo 7 ut solua p cent et pozeses pstit ire 7 redire en gal
Raulin gal penat sic sol xx. gss do podr tb. uij subtit. do speciaria 7 seta 7 c ij. p cent
de Grana iij. p cent. do aiun - argento 7 predatis. ij. p cent
de Alumie 7 haue grosse ℔ xx. gss p milliar ssnh
de balla panor do pcus y. — ℔ xx gss. Et do balla lane podris tb do subtit — ℔ xxx gss
Cubet uo maiois mste accipiat do nauli qutu min pdos
datiu solua quatu solier si adducent p tram.
pozeses 7 possit ire 7 redire en ipis
Item faciat se sibi 7 se obliget ℔ pena tb v ire a Ruffi cyacy usq ad medu ianuu
Et solua azmatoribz p mysby. uij. 7 c usq ad mses. vj.
Qui recipiat omes mercedes ab oibz ta eudo p redundo usq ad sum plenu

Nº VII.—A.D. 1476. MARCH 28.—SENATO TERRA. VOL 7. P. 109. TERGO.

M. cccc. lxxvj. Die xxviij Martij.

Die ssto.

Consiliaz Q. Fiat pzuk Cumbertis deintus 7 ex Joam Caboto p hitat
Annoz xv. Jupo gsuctuz
de parte —— 14 non sinc —— 0
de non ——

## Nº III. — A. D. 1323. APRIL 10. — COMMEMORIALE. REGISTER III. P. 9. TERGO.

Exemplū quarūdā literarū Cōitatus Sapientronē ac occasione concordie et comissionis anglie mittatur sigillo pendente dicte Cōitatus / in cera virid.

A tous ceus qe cestes pſentes lrēs verront ou orront, Le gyarre et la communalte de Lauble, de suthamptoñ saluz en dieu. sachēs qe come nadgayres, cynk galeies de la ville de Benise feusent menez en port de ladite ville de suthampstone / chargees de diuers marchandises, et a ceu temps, entre les patrones / marchantes mestres et mariners des dites galies dune part, et les gentz de nre dite ville de suthamptoñ dautre part / contestes feu sourdsent / . . . . . .
. . . . . Dōn a guchamptoñ le disme iour de auril / Lan. de grace mil / treis cent vint et tierce, / du regne nre segnor le roi Eduard fitz au roi Eduard sezisme

## Nº IV. — A. D. 1392. NOVR 30. — VOL. "LEONA" MAGGIOR CONSIGLIO.

M CCC LXXXXij Indic prima

die vltimo mens Nouembr

Capta

Qđ p honorando Illustre dñm Comitem Lancastrie primogenitum Excelsi dñi Ducis Lancastrie Intimū Amicū nostrū dominum / isto suo aduentu, venecias pro eundo ad scām sepulcrū possint expedi ri oībus expensis quomodocūq; ducati trecenti de denar nostri cōis p illum modum / et sicut videbit dnō gsiliar / capitibus et sapien tibus gsilij vel maiori pti p honore nostri domini / et bono agen dorum nostrorum . Et est capta p sex gsiliar tria capita tri gita quatuor de xl. Et trēs ptes / vltra maiorē gsilij . /

## Nº V. — A. D. 1393. MARCH 31. — VOL. "LEONA" MAGGIOR CONSIGLIO.

Capta — 1393 die vltimo marcij.

Qđ p honorando Illustrē dñm Comitem dalbie filiū dñi Ducis Lancastrie / isto suo recessu, vt redeat ad ptes suas bene gtentus de nobis, possint expendi ducati centum auri de pecunia nri cōis / illis rebus que videbuntur dnō.

Et fuit capta p sex gsiliar tria capita / xxxiij. xl.

## Nº VI. — A. D. 1398. FEBY 18. — MISTI SENATO. VOL. 44. P. 88.

die xviij februarij M CCCLXXXXVIIJ

Capta

Complacuit

Qđ ill̄ magnifico dño duci de gilforth / volenti visitare sepulcrum dominicum in animo fruorem strenue / illustrissimus dns Rex anglie / et q̄ requirit / a nob mutuo donari de nris galeys / occasione pdta q̄ placeat de mutuando ei / dcm galeam cum suis fornimentis / que alias in simili casu factum est / et est capta p quinq; consiliarios. q

# VENETIAN AND OTHER PAPERS.

1202.
Oct.

**1.** BALDWIN COUNT of FLANDERS and HAINAULT.

Notarial attestation that he bound himself to pay, at the next fair of Ligny, to Markisino Soranzo, Pietro Giuliano, Marino Gradenigo and Luca Ardit [? Ardizoni], noblemen of Venice, or to their assigns, unconditionally, the sum of 121 ounces in marks sterling (marcas sterlinorum) at the rate of 13 "solidi" and 4 "denarii" for each silver mark.

Failing payment, he was willing the said individuals should seize goods belonging to his subjects sufficient for the reimbursement of such money; and he requested the Doge to lend his aid and favour to that effect.

Dated the Island (in tumbâ) of St. Erasmus, 1202, in the month of October, 6th indiction.

[*Latin, 19 lines. Serie documenti diplomatici Staccati, No. 76, del Catalogo; Biblioth. Codici e MSS. Miscell. Archivio Veneto.*]

1224.
13 Sept.

**2.** DOGE PIETRO ZIANI and his six Privy Counsellors.

Order in Council for a writ of attachment, at the suit of Raymond late of England, resident at Venice, against Agnes of Marseilles, for breach of a contract of marriage, entered into by Raymond on behalf of his son Giles with Agnes on behalf of her daughter, and whereby Agnes had stipulated to bring her daughter to Venice from Marseilles should she be alive, and to give her as dower one hundred Parisian livres and other effects.

Raymond, having reason to suspect that when he made the contract and gave security for its performance Agnes was already aware of her daughter's demise, petitioned the Signory to ascertain the fact by writing to the Bishop of Marseilles, who replied that the daughter of Agnes was dead; whereupon the Privy Council attached the property of Agnes for the benefit of Raymond, who obtained a certain amount of ready money and Eastern produce, thus:—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 346 | Venetian light livres. | 6 | bladders ginger. |
| 32 | lbs. galangal. | 14 | lbs. cardamums. |
| 22½ | lbs. mace. | 4 | pieces of damask. |

[*Latin. Liber Comunis sive Plegiorum. Small folio volume of 210 pages, containing 705 entries. The foregoing (number 271) consists of 12 lines and three words written on paper. Dimensions of page, 1 foot 4 inches by 11½ inches.*]

1265. Nov. 6. "Fractus." "Deliberazioni," Grand Council.

**3.** TARIFF of DUTIES on CLOTHS, LINENS, and FUSTIANS.

For one whole piece of English Stamford (de pecia integra Stanfortis Angliæ) - - - - - - - *solidos* 24.

For dyed Stamford of any color in two remnants (de Stanforte tincto de omni colore quod adducitur in duobus caviciis) - 12*s.*

And for one remnant - - - - - - - - 13*s.*

For Milanese Stamfords of Monza - - - - 5*s.*

[*Latin.*]

1272. Feb. 15. "Comune I." "Deliberazioni," Grand Council, p. 18.

**4.** "CAMBIUM."

Concerning merchants who go (qui vadunt) to France.

They may carry "cambium," * but not silver, either in plate or in bar, nor gold in bar or in leaf (de paglola).

Repeal of the act forbidding any Venetian to go from Venice to France save with merchandise, and allowing them to take "cambium" to France, and to receive it thence, if for their advantage, so that the drapery brought thence may not be sold elsewhere than at Venice; but they may not carry silver in plate or in bar, nor gold in bar or in leaf (de paglola).

[*Latin,* 8 *lines.*]

1273. Dec. 13. "Comune I." "Deliberazioni," Grand Council, p. 24.

**5.** "CAMBIUM."

Concerning merchants navigating to the parts of Provence, to Marseilles, Montpellier, and Aigues-Mortes, with the exemptions, &c.

Permission both for Venetians and aliens to go from Venice to Provence whether to Marseilles, Montpellier, or Aigues-Mortes, or to other parts of those countries without payment of any duty or toll, they being allowed to convey all merchandise brought from Venetian provinces in the Levant from Rumelie and Sclavonia and every Venetian manufacture. Should they go to the fairs (ad foras) either in Flanders or to other parts thereabouts, and then come to Venice with woollens (cum draperiis), they may import, duty free, merchandise to the amount exported by them thence.

And if the town of Venice be closed or interdicted, be it open to this effect, save that they may not bring gold, silver, or gold or silver coin or "cambium;" and bringing such, they are allowed to bring jewels, stones, and pearls without fraud.

[*Latin,* 18 *lines. Translated into Italian by Marin, in his Storia Civile Politica del Commercio de' Veneziani* (*Venice edition,* 1800), *vol. v., p.* 295.]

1274. Oct. 9. "Comune II." "Deliberazioni." Grand Council, p. 84.

**6.** STERLING SILVER.

Overseers of money gross (monetæ grossæ) to supply sterling silver.

Act passed for an addition to the statute book of the overseers of money-gross, binding them, in like manner as they had hitherto supplied the merchants with sterling silver in bars for 5 "solidi," so to continue doing for the future.

[*Latin, 5 lines. Printed in the Giustinian Correspondence, vol. ii., p.* 320.]

* Exchange metal of the sterling standard (?).

1287.
Sept. 16. "Deliberazioni," Grand Council.

**7.** SAFFRON.

Act passed by the Grand Council, that consuls be empowered to compel such persons as shall seem fit to them to appraise saffron.

[*Latin.*]

1295.
July 17. "Deliberazioni," Grand Council. Zaneta Pilosus, p. 496.

**8.** STERLING MONEY.

Whereas the Duke and Councillors of Candia are bound by their commissions not to sell the measure of salt for more than the sum of two sterlings; and whereas, for want of shipping, salt is dearer than usual—Enacted, that the Duke and Councillors be at liberty to sell the measure of salt for more than the sum of two sterlings, the clause of their commissions to the contrary notwithstanding.

[*Latin.*]

1317–1320. "Misti Senato." v. v. p. 37.

**9.** The VOYAGE to FLANDERS.

Currants and masere, and all other things, may be sent by the Flanders galleys, duty free.

Ib. 172-177.

Mission to the King of England (Edward III.); notwithstanding which, galleys may fit out for the Flanders voyage, but their captain to be appointed by the Republic.

Ib. 174.

Instructions for the galleys deputed to that voyage.

Ib. 174.

The captain to have 6 livres gross per month.

Ib. 182.

A medical surgeon (unum medicum cirurgiæ) was given to the captain of the galleys; his salary being paid by the State.

Ib. 184.

[The galleys] not to go to England unless the agreement be stipulated.

[*Latin.*]

1319.
Nov. 10. Commemoriali, v. ii. p. 66.

**10.** STATEMENT of HENRICO FERRO, that whilst warder of Coron and Modon there arrived at Modon in 1310 a vessel, said to be on its voyage to Rhodes, and landed at Modon two sick men, namely, Dom. Sir John de Dives of England, and a certain chaplain of his. The warder immediately sent physicians, who found that Sir John de Dives had died immediately on landing. He was buried honourably. The chaplain also died the same evening.

The warder and his counsellors, hearing subsequently that the attendants of the said Sir John were wasting his effects, seized what goods they could find, sold them by auction on the market place at Modon, and transmitted the money realized to the Doge, by whose order it was deposited in the procuracy of St. Mark, the amount being from 600 to 700 livres gross.

[*Latin, 8 lines.*]

Nov. 10. Commemoriali, v. ii. p. 66.

**11.** NICOLETO BASADONA.

Thomas Lauredano sent to England, by Nicoleto Basadona about 10,000 lbs. of sugar and about 1,000 lbs. of candy, and four livres tournois gross, in money, amounting to 3,580 livres. Nicoleto sold the goods in London, and went to St. Botulph's (Boston), where he invested the money in wool, which he shipped on board

1319.

two "coggos" for Flanders. When on his voyage thither, Nicoleto died a violent death, and the wool was taken by the men of the English coggos. And this we know through Donato degli Albizzi and others from those parts.

[*Latin. Printed in part in Marin's Storia Civile Politica, vol. v., p.* 306.]

Dec. ?

Commemoriali, v. ii. p. 65.

**12.** NEGOTIATIONS with FLANDERS.

That the ambassador on his way to England be commissioned, should he be in Flanders, to visit the community of Flanders, thank them for justice done at our suit, state the grievances to which our merchants and lieges are subjected, and ask redress.

If he should not succeed in obtaining all these things or part of them, to decide whether the galleys should go in the first place to Antwerp, where our subjects were well received last year; and unless our subjects and property obtain the like at Bruges, great peril might befall them.

[*Latin. Translated by Marin, vol. v., p.* 304.]

1320.

March 13.

"Deliberazioni," Grand Council, "Fronesis." p. 54.

**13.** MOTION made in the GRAND COUNCIL and cancelled.

As some matters remain for completion concerning the affairs of England intrusted to the ambassador sent thither, it is put to the ballot that eight sages be elected, who—together with other three sages elected of yore for those affairs, the Lord Doge, the counsellors, and the chiefs of the Forty—are to have power and liberty to send to the ambassador and give him all such orders as shall seem fit to them concerning the said affairs; disbursing moreover on that account, and repealing acts, as shall be necessary. Whatsoever shall be established and decreed by them, or by the greater part of them, be it enacted, &c.

"Ser" Nicolo Arimondo.
"Ser" Francesco Dandolo.
"Ser" Marino Falier.
"Ser" Arrigo Michael.

Cancelled by order, &c.

[*Latin.*]

1320–22.

"Misti Senato." v. vi. p. 43.

**14.** NEGOTIATIONS with ENGLAND.

1. Act that the Doge, counsellors, chiefs, and sages be authorized to transmit instructions to the ambassador in England.

Ib., p. 44.

2. Act that the money for the agreement with England be derived from a duty on each sack of wool. Repeal of the duty aforesaid.

Ib., p. 74.

3. Act that the Venetian ambassador in England be written to, that if unable to complete the agreement for the sum enjoined him, he may spend 50 marks extra.

Ib., p. 79.

4. Act that an answer be sent to the Venetian ambassador in England "Ser" Giovanni de Lege.

[*Latin.*]

1320–21.
Jan. 27.

**15.** MOTION made in the GRAND COUNCIL and repealed.

"Deliberazioni," Grand Council, "Fronesis." p. 87.

That the moneys required for the agreement and business of England, about which our ambassador, "Ser" Giovanni de Lege, has been written to, be borrowed from the grain chamber, from the funds of private individuals existing there; the grain officials being bound to repay them with interest, by means of the duty of 20 (solidi) gross [groats ?] on each bag of wool for payment of the said debt, as carried in the Senate and court of the Forty.

"Ser" Nicolo Arimondo.
"Ser" Francesco Dandolo.
"Ser" Marino Falier.
"Ser" Arrigo Michael.

Cancelled by order, &c.

[*Latin.*]

1321.
May 14.

**16.** MOTION made in the GRAND COUNCIL and repealed.

"Deliberazioni," Grand Council, "Fronesis." p. 94.

That as the negotiation with England confided to our ambassador, Giovanni de Lege, could not be effected, be it carried that the Lord (Doge), the counsellors, chiefs of the Forty, and proveditors, and the majority of them, intrust the business to such persons as shall seem fit to them, with the same licence as conceded to Giovanni de Lege, both with regard to completion, expenditure, &c. If the Council object, to be repealed.

S. Nicolo Arimondo.
S. Francesco Dandolo.
S. Marino Falier.
S. Giustiniano Giustiniano.

S. Giovanni Calderario, clerk, cancelled the above act by order.

[*Latin.*]

1322–1324.
"Misti Senato," vii. pp. 48, 60.

**17.** NEGOTIATIONS with ENGLAND.

Authority given for making an agreement with the King of England, according to the commission of Pietro Zeno and Perono Giustinian.

[*Latin.*]

1323.
April 10.
Commemoriali, v. iii. p. 9.

**18.** AFFRAY at SOUTHAMPTON.

Proclamation from the mayor and corporation of Southampton, narrating an affray between the patrons, merchants, masters, and mariners of five Venetian galleys on one side and the inhabitants of Southampton on the other, accompanied with loss of life and property, whereby the Venetians were liable to proceedings for felony and homicide; but the mayor and corporation announce the grant of a release, in consideration of a certain sum of money received from the merchants of Venice.

[*Contemporary registered transcript. French.*]

Ib.

2. Similar release, likewise in date of Southampton, 10 April 1323, from Thomas de Rynedone, Roger Acthurne, Villame de Sivale, Riccard Forst, Nichol Sanson, Henry Cole, Stevene de Revetone, Johan de Vestone, Riccard Siver, Riccard Bovert, Henry Forst, Hugh Sanson, Riccard de Suptone, and Henry de Lim, of the town of Southampton.

1323.

The document authenticated by the seal of the mayor and corporation of Southampton and witnessed by Jehan de Scures, sheriff of Southampton, and "Sires" Jehan de Lile, Ingeran Berrengar, Jehan de Tycheborn, Roger Vodelock, Rich. de Straon, Edm. de Kendale, and Jehan de Chauconde, chevaliers; Villame Peverel, Villame Vadelok, Johan de Chikeule, Rich. de Byflet, Valter le Poreys, Rich. de Vincestre, Rich. Fromond, Roger le Forester, and others.

[*Contemporary registered transcript. French.*]

Commemoriali, v. iii. p. 10.

3. Similar release from Johan de Isle de Wyght, dated London, 10 April 1323. *Printed in Rymer, vol. ii., part i., p.* 514, *but without the following postscript:—*

"In the name of God. Amen.

"On the 26th of May 1326, whereas we, Nicolo Lamberteschi, of the Peruzi firm, and Andrea Borgognoni, of the Bardi firm, of Florence,* have presented to the Doge of Venice a letter patent of agreement between the King of England and the Venetian Commonwealth, bearing the King's seal given in Parliament, the Doge directs us to send a copy of the said letter to Venice, and we promise to have it sent at his command without hindrance.

"I, Nicolo Lamberteschi of the Peruzi firm, agree to do as afore written."

Promissory note given by the Peruzi partners of London to obtain another similar royal letter.

[*Contemporary registered transcript. The document is in French, but the postscript in Italian and the memorandum in Latin.*†]

1325.

Dec. 6.

**19.** KING EDWARD III.

Commemoriali, v. ii. p. 183.

Release, pardon, and remission to the Venetians, dated Westminster, 6 Dec. 1325. *Of the same tenor as the one in Rymer (vol. ii., pt. i., 516), dated Westminster, 16 April 1323; but the Venetian document bears the following memorandum:—*

"Note, that the said letter was furnished with the pendent seal of the said Lord King of England in green wax; on one side of which was his royal majesty enthroned, and round the obverse the words—

✠ EDWARDUS DEI GRA REX ANGLIE, DNS YBERNIE, DUX AQUITANIE.

And on the other side of the said seal was the royal effigy on horseback, sword in hand, the surrounding inscription being the same as the aforesaid."

[*Contemporary registered transcript. Latin.*]

* For the history of the Bardi and Peruzzi firm, and of their dealings with Edward III., see Ellis's Original Letters, 3d series, i. 39. The failure of these famous merchants seems to have taken place shortly before the year 1357.

† By the index to the Miscellaneous Acts of the Senate, it is seen that the correspondence between the Republic and the Peruzi and Bardi firm about the Southampton fray had commenced in 1324.

1325.
Dec. 6. Commemoriali, v. iii. p. 9.

2. SECOND CONTEMPORARY TRANSCRIPT of the foregoing release but without the description of the seal.

[*Latin.*]

"Misti Senato," v. ix. p. 35.

**20.** [AFFRAY at SOUTHAMPTON.]

Draft of the letter sought to be obtained from the King of England through the Peruzi and Acciaioli firm.

[*Latin.*]

1331.
Ib. v. xiv. p. 80.

**21.** The VOYAGE to FLANDERS.

Proclamation in favour of the galleys for the Flanders voyage, to the effect that English and Flemish wool imported into Venice overland do pay 25 per cent. duty until after the return of the said galleys; but thenceforth 3 per cent.

[*Latin.*]

1332.
April 23. Ib. v. xv. p. 10.

**22.** ACT that for the benefit of the FLANDERS SQUADRON the galleys may not by any means go to England.

[*Latin.*]

1333.
Dec. 14. Ib. v. xvi. p. 45.

**23.** DECREE of the SENATE.

In order that the galleys bound for the Flanders voyage may take full cargoes, and not suffer loss on account of wool brought by land, it is decreed:—

"That English and Flemish wool may not be brought overland from Flanders to Venice after the calends of next March, under penalty of 25 per cent.; though one month after the return of the said galleys, wool may be brought to Venice by land."

Proclaimed by the crier (præconem), Antonio, on the 15th December.

[*Latin.*]

1339.
July 29. "Deliberazioni" Grand Council, "Spiritus," p. 98.

**24.** MOTION made at the SUIT of the WOOLLEN MANUFACTURERS of VENICE, that the recent duties imposed on foreign cloths, be extended to foreign wools.

The decree to remain in force for two years, before which expiration, the vicelords and proveditors to give a written statement to the Doge and counsellors of the result of the measure.

In the first place all wools imported into Venice; namely, French, Burgundian, and English, to pay ten livres gross per thousand weight, namely such as shall be bought by the drapers manufacturing at Venice.

German wool to pay six livres gross per thousand weight.

Barbary wool, warped, to pay five livres gross per thousand weight.

Barbary wool, foul, unwashed, to pay two livres gross per thousand weight.

1339.

Wool of Cyprus, Candia, Tana, Sicily, Apulia, Sclavonia, and "Judeche," and coarse wools of every sort, to pay eight livres gross per thousand weight.

All coarse wools of the said quality, foul and unwashed, to pay half.

All foreign yarn, spun or unspun, of any sort soever, brought to Venice, and recognised as being of wool of middling quality and rather better, to pay seven livres gross per thousand weight.

Item, that of all wool brought to Venice from any part soever, the writers of the ships do give note in writing to the officials of the Lombard "Table," as they do the officials of the "Ternaria"; * and the vicelords of the German warehouse to give account to them in writing of all the wool which enters the warehouse; each of the merchants doing the like by what he receives on his own account. The weighers of the steelyard not to weigh, or cause to be weighed, any wool sold or taken, unless the vicelords do first receive the note; and after the weighing of the wool, the weighers to send the weight-note to the vicelords of the Lombard Table, as they do with those of iron.

Item, all the aforesaid woollen drapers to pay the aforesaid duties within two months after the said wool shall have been weighed, under penalty of one fourth of the duty.

Item, any draper of this art who defrauds, and observes not what is aforesaid, to be fined 25 livres per cent. on the value of his wool, and expelled the trade for one year, and not to practise the art, nor cause it to be practised, within that time; and the said vicelords to inspect in person all wools and yarns, and woollen cloths; and those who shall at this present be found to possess the like, must within two months' pay the aforesaid damage.

Item, the penalties to be divided, as in the statute concerning penalties on cloths made in Venice.

[*Latin.*]

1340.
April 27.
Commemoriali, v. iii. p. 171.

**25.** CONTEMPORARY MINUTE registered on parchment of an announcement made to the Republic of Venice in the name of King Edward III., by his ambassador, Friar Richard, Bishop of Bisaccia, chaplain to King Robert of Naples.

That Philip de Valois, styling himself King of France, occupies Normandy, the greater and more fertile part of the duchy of Aquitaine, and the counties of Anjou, Saintonge cum insulis, and of Pontoise in Picardy, all which from time out of mind appertained to the kingdom of England.

On this account, King Edward calls upon the said Philip to fight a pitched battle. But for the avoidance of reproach hereafter on account of so much Christian bloodshed, he at the commencement of the war offered, by letter, to settle the dispute either by single combat, or with a band of six or eight, or any number he pleased on each side; or that, if he be the true King of France as asserted by him, he should stand the test of braving ravenous lions who

* The "Ternaria" was an office which had control over the weights and measures, the oil duties, &c

1340.

in no wise harm a true king, or perform the miracle of touching for the evil; if unable, to be considered unworthy of the kingdom of France.

That all these offers were rejected; and as by law divine and human those forcibly and unjustly oppressed are entitled to aid, the said most serene Prince Edward requests from the Doge and Commonwealth of the Venetians the subsidy of 40 or more galleys on hire for one whole year, winter and summer, he being prepared to send such sum as the Doge and Commonwealth may fix, in gold or silver or other merchandise, before they quit the port of Venice.

That King Edward promises to defend the crews and galleys as he would his own person; but that should the request be refused, he earnestly petitions against any aid of galleys or of any other sort being given to the adversary, and that the Doge and Commonwealth will at least remain neutral.

Item, that the Doge and Commonwealth do exhort the Doge of Genoa not to give any subsidy to Philip de Valois.

Item, King Edward offers to Venetian citizens and merchants in England the same immunities as enjoyed by Englishmen.

Item, a perpetual privilege, duly signed and sealed, granting whatever may be required.

By a separate note, the Bishop of Bisaccia was charged in the King's name to request the Doge (Bortolamio Gradenigo) to send his two sons, or at least one of them, even should he be the favourite, to the English court, promising them every honour, including that of knighthood.

In reply, the Doge expressed regret for the quarrel, and hoped that it would be adjusted; but dread of the Turkish armada of 230 sail rendered it impossible for the Republic to concede any naval subsidy.

That it would be unfitting to write to the Doge of Genoa.

That the privileges in favour of Venetian subjects would be accepted very gratefully; the Doge returning devout and immense thanks for the gracious offers concerning his sons.

[*Latin*, 140 *lines*.]

1347.

Feb. 20. "Misti Senato." v. xxiv. p. 1.

**26.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning four galleys appointed for the Flanders voyage.

[*Latin*.]

1356.

Dec. 20. "Misti Senato." v. xxvii. p. 103.

**27.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the Flanders galleys.

[*Latin*.]

Dec. 20. Ib.

**28.** DECREE and Preliminaries for putting the Flanders galleys on the berth as of yore.

[*Latin*.]

Dec. 24. "Misti Senato," v. xxvii. p. 106.

**29.** AMENDMENT to the MOTION of the 20th December.

Demand for letters of safeconduct for the Flanders galleys to be made of the Count of Flanders [Louis II. de Maele], of the burgomasters, sheriffs, and council of Bruges; these four estates being requested to encourage the intercourse between the two countries.

1356.

The Venetian consul in Flanders, and the noblemen Dardo Polani and Federico Boni, Venetian citizens, to present the demand for these letters, and to return an answer by the courier, giving also the news of Flanders.

Be the King of England [Edward III.], likewise written to, in such form as shall seem fit to the Signory for the advantage of the undertaking; asking of him a safeconduct as aforesaid. The letter to be sent for transmission to our consul and noblemen as aforesaid; and should there be no consul at Bruges, the two noblemen above-mentioned to elect another of our citizens resident there, to provide for the dispatch of a proper messenger to the King, to obtain the safeconduct, and to acquaint us on his return with the reply, and with the news and condition of those parts.

Assurance given to the consul and noblemen aforesaid, that all expenses incurred by them will be defrayed in full.

[*Latin.*]

Dec. 24. Ib. **30.** DECREE for the dispatch of an envoy to the King of Castile (Don Pedro the Cruel), to demand a similar safeconduct.

[*Latin.*]

Dec. 24. **31.** DECREE and ORDERS given for the voyage of the Flanders galleys. [*Latin.*]

Dec. 29. "Misti Senato," v. xxvii. p. 107. **32.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Lest the galleys bound for Flanders suffer loss through the wool which might be brought overland, be it ordained and proclaimed that, from the month of March next, the wool of Flanders and England may not be brought to Venice overland, or through towns subject to the commonwealth, under penalty of 25 per cent; but two months after the return of the galleys from Flanders wool may be brought overland as at present.

[*Latin.*]

1357.

March 23. Commemoriali, v. v. p. 92. **33.** SAFECONDUCT from EDWARD III. for five Venetian galleys on their voyage towards Flanders, dated Westminster, 23d March, 31st year English reign—18th French reign.

[*Latin. In substance the same as in Rymer, vol. iii., part i., p. 351.*]

1358.

March 3. "Misti Senato." v. xxviii. p. 30. **34.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out six galleys for the Flanders voyage.

Lest the galleys suffer loss on account of wool brought by land, wool of England and Flanders, sent from Flanders after the month of May, not to be brought to Venice by land, nor through towns subject to our Signory, under penalty of 25 per cent.

Two months after the return of the galleys from Flanders, wool may be brought thence to Venice as at present. The proveditor is charged to make inquiries, and levy the fines, having a share of them as of others appertaining to his office.

[*Latin.*]

1358.
May 26.
"Misti Senato," v. xxviii. p. 53.

**35.** MOTION made in the SENATE and carried.

Letters to be written to the King of England (Edward III.), to the Count of Flanders (Louis de Maele), to the sheriffs and others, and to the consul in Flanders, for the safety and franchises of galleys going to Flanders, and of others to be sent thither hereafter, in such form as shall seem most advantageous for the matter.

[*Latin.*]

1359.
Jan. 14.
"Misti Senato," v. xxviii. p. 83.

**36.** DECREE of the SENATE.

That to effect the safety of the galleys bound now and hereafter for the Flanders voyage, letters be written to the kings of England, France, and Castile, and to the sheriffs, council, and community (comuni) of Bruges, and elsewhere, in such form and as shall seem fit to the Signory now and hereafter.

[*Latin, 3 lines.*]

**37.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Jan. 14.
"Misti Senato," v. xxviii. p. 84.

Lest the galleys for the Flanders voyage suffer loss on account of wool which might be brought overland, the wool of England and Flanders, conveyed from Flanders after the month of May, not to be brought to Venice by land nor through towns subject to our Signory under penalty of 25 per cent.; this fine to be irremissible under penalty of 200 livres to any mover or seconder of any motion to the contrary; but two months after the return thence of the galleys, it may be brought to Venice as at present: the proveditors to prosecute those who act to the contrary, and levy the penalties, having a share as of others (the perquisites) of their office.

[*Latin, 6⅔ lines.*]

Feb.
Archive Miscellany.

**38.** STATEMENT made by PIERO EMO to the Venetian government, narrating a conversation held by him at the commencement of February 1369, with Biachin Tiepolo, who proposed capturing the castle of Trieste for the Republic, with the aid of 100 Englishmen.

[*In the Venetian dialect, 30 lines, paper.*]

1370.
April 22.
Commemoriali, v. vii. p. 125.

**39.** SAFECONDUCT from EDWARD III. in favour of Venetian subjects, ships, galleys, masters, mariners, &c., &c. Westminster, April 22, 1370.

[*Registered transcript, Latin. As in Rymer, vol. iii., part ii., p.* 890.]

April 22.
Commemoriali, v. vii. p. 125.

**40.** LETTERS PATENT from EDWARD III., acquainting all admirals, captains, warders and others with the grant of his protection to the Doge of Venice and Venetian subjects, vessels, &c., &c. Westminster, April 22, 1370.

[*Registered transcript. Latin, 53 lines, parchment.*]

April 24.
Commemoriali, v. vii. p. 125.

**41.** EDWARD III. to DOGE ANDREA CONTARINI.

Acknowledges the receipt of credentials from the ambassador, Luia Vallaresso. In consequence of the ambassador's oral statement, the King announces having given a safeconduct for Venetian

1370.

subjects and merchandise, together with a letter under the privy seal, signed on the 3rd April. Westminster, 24th April.

[*Registered transcript. Latin. In the margin there is a note purporting that the original was in the possession of the State Proveditors.*]

April 24.
Commemoriali, v. vii. p. 125.

**42.** EDWARD III. to DOGE ANDREA CONTARINI.

Acknowledges credentials received from the ambassador, Luca de Vallaresso, and concedes his demand for letters of protection and safeconduct for Venetian subjects, their goods, and merchandise on their way to England, on condition of reciprocity, until Easter, and provided the conditions contained in a note delivered under the privy seal on behalf of the Council, dated April 3, be in like manner observed.

Westminster, 24th April, 1370.

[*Registered transcript. Latin, 27 lines, parchment.*]

Oct. 20.
"Misti Senato." v. xxxiii. p. 83.

**43.** REPLY of the SENATE to the Demands made by EDWARD III. of the Ambassador Vallaresso, on his requiring a safeconduct for Venetian ships, coggos, and galleys.

1st demand made by the English Privy Council.—Perpetual good will and amity between the Doge, citizens, and commonwealth of Venice, and the King, realm, and subjects of England.

Answer.—"We and our commonwealth, following the footsteps of our forefathers, ever have been especial lovers of his royal Majesty and his kingdom, and thus are we, and mean to be; and likewise out of respect for his Majesty do we purpose treating his subjects with singular love and good will."

2d demand.—The said Doge, citizens, &c., do neither openly nor secretly give any succour of men, ships, ammunition, provisions, or other things, to the enemies of the King and his kingdom, in France, Spain, or elsewhere.

Answer.—General professions of good will; and protest that in all wars and disputes it was the Republic's custom never to interfere between the parties, save for their reconciliation.

3d demand.—That should the Doge become acquainted with anything detrimental to the King he do give notice thereof to his Majesty.

Reply.—Allusion to the great distance between Venice and England and the small reliance to be placed on political intelligence received thence, the intercourse between the two countries being chiefly commercial. The accounts written from those parts often contain false intelligence, as is well known to many English barons and soldiers, who, when in the Venetian territory, heard news of England and of her rivals, which for the most part proved frivolous and mendacious. Therefore, to impart such reports would be detrimental to his Majesty, and might mar that good understanding which the Republic was anxious to maintain with him. The Doge will reply to these demands after Easter, as promised by the ambassador, Luca Vallaresso, in date of London, 24 April, 1370.

[*Latin, 107 lines, parchment.*]

1374.

April 14. "Misti Senato." v. xxxiv. p. 97.

**44.** DECREE of the SENATE* for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage.

[*Latin.*]

July 14. "Misti Senato." v. xxxiv. p. 123.

**45.** MOTIONS made in the SENATE concerning an EMBASSY to ENGLAND.

It being necessary to provide for the affairs of Flanders, which are important and require immediate attention, it is put to the ballot that, by authority of this Council, a committee consisting of the Doge, the counsellors, the chiefs (of the Forty), and the Sages for the Orders, do send a proper person as ambassador to the King of England, with such commission and instructions as shall seem fit to the committee; which is also authorized to take necessary steps for the safety of the galleys and other vessels bound on the Flanders voyage. All expenses incurred on this account to be defrayed by the merchants engaged in the voyage, in such form as the committee shall determine.

Motion made by the Sages for the Orders,—Leonardo Bembo, Francesco Foscolo, and Bertuccio Contarini.

Ayes, 17.

Amendment proposed and carried by the Sage for the Orders—Giovanni Storlado.

As it is more for our honour that the ambassador be appointed by this Council rather than by a committee,—put to the ballot, that the ambassador be elected in this council by two scrutinies, one being made by the counsellors and the chiefs (of the Forty), with fitting conditions and salary.

Moreover, as these are affairs of merchandise and concern the whole town, be it ordained that the necessary steps be taken by this Council that they may prove more mature and formal.

And forthwith be it carried, that the expenses to be incurred on account of this embassy go to account of average on merchandise, according to the original motion.

Ayes, 59. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin.*]

July 18. "Misti Senato." v. xxxiv. p. 126.

**46.** DECREE of the SENATE.

That for the good and safety of our Flanders galleys it be ordered, on account of the news received from our consul at Bruges, that the ambassador to be elected to the most serene King of England, do have for salary 50 livres gross for four months; and should he stay more than four months, let him thenceforth receive 100 light livres per month. He is to keep four upper servants, two pages, a cook, and a secretary waited on by one of the servants of the ambassador.

For expenses of every description, including salaries, he may expend eight ducats per diem.

On the day of his election, or on the morrow, he is to present himself at 9 a.m., and to have a fine scarlet gown made for himself with his salary aforesaid.

* It appears that during fifteen years, from 1359 to 1374, the voyages of the Flanders galleys were discontinued.

1374.

He is to depart as soon as possible, being selected out of the magistracies from which it is usual to select ambassadors accredited to crowned heads; nor may he refuse under penalty of 100 livres. (Carried.)

The money, horses, and other necessaries required for this embassy, to be raised by a loan from the grain treasury, and repaid with the usual interest, thus,—

Our consul at Bruges to levy half per cent. on all merchandise and goods conveyed thither by galleys and other coggos and vessels during the whole of the present month of July; and in like manner on all other merchandise and goods conveyed thither hereafter, whether by galleys or ships.

On the return, be our consul aforesaid in like manner charged to levy another half per cent. on all merchandise and goods loaded there in our galleys or ships; this tax to be continued until the entire repayment of the loan to our treasury aforesaid. (Carried.)

Should the aforesaid goods and merchandise be recovered or obtained, the plaintiffs to pay 5 per cent. to by comprised in the sum aforesaid; and before the ambassador's departure, he is to come to this Council for the completion of his commission, and it will be made out as shall seem fit.

Ayes, 33—42.

Proposed amendment:—

That half per cent. be exacted both by sea and land, on goods both going and returning.

The ambassador to have 40 livres gross for four months, and thenceforth 100 livres per month; to keep four servants, two pages, and a secretary waited on by one of the attendants of the ambassador; and he may expend eight ducats per diem.

Ayes, 17.

Proposed amendment:—

That for the first four months the ambassador do receive 40 livres gross, and thenceforth 100 light livres per month.

Ayes, 22—28. Noes, 1. Neutrals, 2—4.

Ambassador elected—Ser Marco Morosini. Eligible—Ser Marco Cornaro.

[*Latin.*]

July 24. "Misti Senato." v. xxxiv. p. 129.

**47.** DECREE of the SENATE.

That the commission to the nobleman Marco Morosini, ambassador to the Lord King of England, be made out thus, namely:—

"We, Andrea Contarini, by the grace of God, Doge of the Venetians, &c., &c., commission thee, Marco Morosini, &c., &c., that in the name of Jesus Christ, and of the glorious Virgin Mary his mother, and of our Protector St. Mark, and of the whole heavenly host, to go as our formal ambassador to the most serene and most excellent Lord King of England; with the orders and clauses hereunder particularly stated.

1374.

"In the first place on this thy journey, we charge thee to go towards Bruges, where forthwith without any loss of time, through the consul and our merchants, thou wilt acquaint thyself thoroughly both with the old and recent damages.

The former, inflicted in 1370, concerned 19 bales of serges and 4 bales of cloth, value 6,500 ducats, or thereabouts; besides three bales of cloths, valued at 45 livres tournois gross, belonging to 'Ser' Giovanni Grimani.

"Being fully informed concerning these and the recent damages, all of which are known there in detail; thou wilt there at Bruges take good counsel about drawing up a public instrument or instruments concerning our damages aforesaid, so that they may be all clear, and that in the presence of the Lord King of England, or of his [ministers] no opposition can be made, but the business be dispatched as just.

"Moreover, at Bruges, thou wilt inform thyself whether our consul obtained a safeconduct and indemnity for the recent damages, as we wrote lately very earnestly to the Lord King by our letters special.

"When at Bruges, should it seem fit to thee, thou wilt go without loss of time into the presence of the Lord Count of Flanders, should he be there or thereabout; and after saluting him as becoming in our name, thou wilt earnestly recommend to his magnificence our consul and merchants trading there, in such strong language as shall seem fit to thy wisdom for the good of our subjects.

"Moreover, after conferring with the consul and our merchants, should it seem necessary to thee in any way to ask aid and favour of the Lord Count, for the advantage and dispatch of thy embassy, and of the business committed to thee, thou wilt do in this matter as shall seem most profitable and fit to thee.

"Should the Count of Flanders not be in the province, or near at hand, or so situated that thou canst not speak to him, thou wilt speak concerning the aforesaid matters to his lieutenants as shall seem best to thy wisdom.

"Being fully acquainted with all the aforesaid matters at Bruges promptly and speedily, for the good of the business and without loss of time, as we hope of thee, thou wilt then in good grace, and as quickly as possible, cross over to England and endeavour to have audience of the Lord King. After such offices of respect and salutation as becoming our honour, thou wilt, in such sage and adroit language as shall seem fit to thee, demand of his Majesty [indemnity] for our recent damages, which we have lately requested of his Majesty very earnestly by letter; and likewise for our old damages with respect to those 19 bales of serges, and 4 [bales] of cloths, as aforesaid, besides the three other bales of cloths; and should any other damage have been done afresh subsequently, thou wilt in like manner demand indemnity for it, and also letters of safeconduct and security for our subjects and galleys, and any other ships soever or property of ours. This, in the most ample, secure, and best form thou canst obtain, and for the longest possible term, for our good and that of our merchants.

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"And with regard to obtaining and seeking the aforesaid things, be diligent and attentive, as we fully hope from thee.

"If, after making thy announcement aforesaid, and doing what good thou canst in the matter, thou perceivest the Lord King to be harsh about granting indemnity for the damages aforesaid, old and new; and that he be content to give letters of safeconduct for our subjects, galleys, and vessels, and for Venetian property—in that case rest content with the letters of safeconduct, in good and sufficient form, for the security of the galleys and cargoes. And with regard to the damages old and new, delay and procrastinate with the Lord King and his ministers, until our galleys be dispatched, and utterly beyond his control and power (et de fortia et manibus)*; but take good heed lest thy words or promises prejudice in any way our claims for the damages aforesaid, it being our intention that amends and satisfaction be conceded for them, as is just.

"We moreover charge thee—if unable after every possible effort, to obtain indemnity from the Lord King for damages old or new, or even letters of safeconduct—that nevertheless, even then—in such adroit and sage manner as shall seem fit to thee, when acquainted with the particulars—thou do delay to thy utmost and give things time, or employ such other cautious and dexterous means that our galleys may effect their dispatch thence, and be beyond his control and power, as we fully hope from thee.

"We besides charge thee—in case the Lord King mention to thee, that two of our galleys should go and trade towards London—thou shalt then tell his Majesty that we lately answered him on this subject by letter, a copy of which we have sent to give thee for thy information, so that by those arguments and others which shall seem fit to thee thou mayst remove this from the mind of his serenity, as we fully hope from thy prudence.

"It being profitable to abound in caution, and as it may chance that the Lord King of England will be content to make amends for our recent damages, and to grant letters of safeconduct as demanded of him lately by letter, as thou canst ascertain at Bruges—we inform thee, that in that case, thou must present thyself to the Lord King of England, and inform him that we are much pleased with the extreme justice he has caused to be done us by the indemnity for our recent damages aforesaid, and also by the letters of safeconduct, all which we know proceeds manifestly from the good zeal and sincere disposition of his most serene Majesty; using such good and fair words concerning this matter as shall seem fit to thee for our advantage and that of our merchants. And at the close of thy discourse, thou wilt demand of the aforesaid King indemnity for our old damages aforesaid, and do what good thou canst to obtain amends and satisfaction for them, as is just, so that our subjects may have reason to hold intercourse with his kingdom and frequent it, to the advantage and profit of his royal Majesty. And, should it seem to thee that the letters of safeconduct be too short timed, or

* By the sequel it appears that the galleys had avoided the English ports, but apparently considered themselves in the power of Edward III. until out of the British Channel.

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in any way defective, or not sufficiently comprehensive, we leave thee at liberty to procure them for the longest term and as full as possible, for our good and that of our merchants.

"And should amends be obtained, and satisfaction for the damages recent and ancient, and letters of safeconduct as mentioned, after taking honorable leave, thou mayst return to Venice acquainted with everything."

Amendment made in the Senate by the two counsellors, Pietro Morosini and Luca Valaresso, and by the chief of the Forty, Paulo Falier.

"As no provision is made for the principal point, and concerning that which is the cause of the whole affair; be our ambassador therefore charged that—should the Lord King of England mention to him that we must traffic in his places with our galleys, and that otherwise he will neither give us a safeconduct nor repair our aforesaid losses—in that case our ambassador shall do all he can with that assiduity which shall seem fit to him that our galleys may be at liberty to go where they please as usual. And if he be unable to obtain this by any means from the Lord King, let him then say, that on the present occasion arrangements have been made, so that with difficulty could anything be done; but lest for the future so great an advantage be lost on this account, we are content that, of the galleys destined by us for that voyage, the amount of one third, or thereabouts, shall traffic in his towns and places: our ambassador endeavouring to stipulate as brief a period as possible, and to arrange for our advantage, obtaining franchises and the usual safeconduct, which he will seek to improve and ameliorate to the utmost. And with this condition be our galleys put up to auction, when proposed for that voyage."

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ayes - - - | 30 | 28 | 26. |
| Noes - - - | 17 | 15 | 12. |
| Neutrals - - | 18 | 21 | 24. |

[*Latin.*]

17 Aug. "Misti Senato." v. xxxiv. p. 132.

**48.** DECREE of the SENATE suspending the Embassy of Marco Morosini.

It being known for certain that our Flanders galleys, and the coggos likewise, have reached the port of Sluys in safety, and as the question of compromise for the damage done to our merchants and citizens by the subjects of the Lord King of England is in a sufficiently fair way, neither was it so considerable as supposed: be it put to the ballot, for the good and advantage of our commonwealth, that the embassy to the Lord King of England, now about to set out, be suspended for the present; and should anything be heard hereafter concerning the matters aforesaid, they will be provided for as shall seem most profitable and salutary.

[*Latin. Motion made by the Counsellors, and by the Sage for the order, to Giovanni Storlado.*]

1375.

Jan. 12. "Misti Senato." v. xxxiv. p. 151.

**49.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out five galleys for the Flanders voyage.

[*Latin*, 120 *lines.*]

1375.

Jan. 20. "Misti Senato." v. xxxiv. p. 153.

**50.** DECREE of the SENATE, that as the continuance of the Flanders voyage and its increase are much to the advantage of the whole town, and that the franchises for its performance should be maintained and augmented, a committee be appointed to effect this, and to endeavour to obtain a safeconduct from the Lord King of England through a proper person, one of those now about to undertake this present voyage, on such terms, cost, &c., as shall seem fit to the committee; the necessary funds to be supplied by the grain treasury, with the usual interest, to be repaid by a tax on the Majorca and Flanders voyages.

[*Latin, 9 lines.*]

March 20. "Misti Senato." v. xxxv. p. 6.

**51.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning a safeconduct to be demanded of Edward III.

The nobleman Pietro Bragadino having been sent to Flanders to obtain certain franchises both from the Count of Flanders and from others in those parts, and also to go to the Lord King of England for a safeconduct for our galleys—the captain of the Flanders galleys, when at Bruges, is to make diligent inquiry, through our consul, concerning what said "Ser" Pietro shall have obtained; and should he not have succeeded, the captain to endeavour to effect what remains for completion.

[*Latin, 12 lines.*]

April 20. Commemoriali, v. vii. p. 199.

**52.** LETTERS PATENT from EDWARD III. to all admirals, captains, &c., announcing the grant of his protection to five Venetian galleys, commanded by Francesco Giustinian, their masters being Fantin Georgio, Carlo Quirini, Nicolo Soranzo, Nicolo Morosini, and Egidio Morosini.

Westminster, April 20, 1375.

[*Registered transcript. Latin, 40 lines, parchment.*]

April 25. Commemoriali, v. vii. p. 199.

**53.** LETTERS PATENT from EDWARD III. to all admirals, &c., announcing the grant of his protection to Venetian vessels and merchants, provided they exhibit testimonials from the Doge vouching for their identity, and that their cargoes be *bonâ fide* Venetian property, and do not comprise merchandise belonging to any hostile power.

Westminster, April 25, 1375.

[*Registered transcript. Latin, 56 lines, parchment.*]

Aug. 17. "Misti Senato." v. xxxvi. p. 132.

**54.** REPEAL by the SENATE of the commission given to Marco Morosini, it being known that the Flanders galleys and coggos had arrived in safety at Sluys; that the indemnity demanded for Venetian subjects of England was in a fair way for adjustment, and that the damage had been less than was supposed.

[*Latin, 12 lines, parchment.*]

1376.

Jan. 18. "Misti Senato." v. xxxiv. p. 77.

**55.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out five galleys for the Flanders voyage.

[*Latin, 3 lines.*]

1376.
May 16. Commemoriali, v. viii. p. 12.

**56.** NICOLÒ ESTENSE, MARQUIS of FERRARA, to DOGE ANDREA CONTARINI.

Announces news, received on the preceding evening from a trustworthy friend, of the invasion of the territory of Treviso, by Leopold Duke of Austria, and offers the State assistance.

Informs him "that many persons coming from the Bolognese territory report that yesterday the English company traversed well nigh the whole province, coming even to the canal leading from Ferrara to Bologna. To that they did much mischief, and captured many persons on the said territory, and made a great booty of animals."

Given at Ferrara, 16 May 1376.

[*Registered transcript. Latin,* 14 *lines.*]

1377.
May 7. Mantuan Archives.

**57.** SIR JOHN HAWKWOOD to LODOVICO GONZAGA, LORD of MANTUA.

Announces that he is sending by water for the equipment of his castle of Bagnacavallo a certain quantity of battle axes, arbalast-bolts, and divers things, which he requests may be allowed to pass the Mantuan custom houses duty free.

Cremona, 7 May 1377.

[*Original, on paper, Latin,* 3 *lines.*]

May 26. Mantuan Archives.

**58.** SIR JOHN HAWKWOOD to LODOVICO GONZAGA, LORD of MANTUA.

Writes that his secretary (cancellarius), Sir John de Cingulo (Belton?), has his attendants and household stuff at Ferrara; and requests that, having constant need of Belton and his attendants, Gonzaga will grant to Belton's servant, John of Naples, a licence permitting the said attendants and property to pass by water through the Mantuan jurisdiction, duty free.

Cremona, 26 May 1377.

[*Original, on paper, Latin,* 4 *lines.*]

1378.
April 16. Mantuan Archives.

**59.** SIR JOHN HAWKWOOD to LODOVICO GONZAGA, LORD of MANTUA.

Narrates how on that day when passing near Castel Guifre, in the Mantuan territory, which had always been respected throughout by the "company," certain guards outside that castle seized a lean brown horse with a long star on his forehead, and his hind legs fired (gambis posterioribus coctus), the property of an Englishman one Abaff Donfol.

Requests him to send an order to his said subjects for the restitution of the horse and of a small bag and its contents which he carried, and urges him to hold the "company" his friend, as it means to treat him like its master the Lord Bernabo Visconti. Desires a reply.

From the entrenched camp under Verona, 16 April 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin,* 8 *lines.*]

1378.
April 17. Mantuan Archives.

**60.** Sir John Hawkwood to Lodovico Gonzaga, Lord of Mantua.

Request for a free pass for six barges, on their voyage down the Po to Ferrara, freighted with arms, timber, implements, corn, and other ammunition destined for the use of Hawkwood's town of Bagnacavallo.

Mentions having been informed that the Cardinal of St. Peter's (Francesco Tebaldeschi, prior of S. Pietro in Vincola), was elected Pope.

From "our camp at Piadena," 17 April 1378.

[*Original on paper, Latin, 6 lines.*]

April 20. Mantuan Archives.

**61.** Sir John Hawkwood, Jacopo de Cavalli, and Conrad Deponte to Lodovico Gonzaga.

Reply to complaints from him about injury done to his subjects in the territories of Goito, Cenesari, and Rodigo.

Expressions of great surprise, the writers being under the impression that the Englishmen Sir Roger and Sir Thomas had arrived in the Veronese territory at the same time as they themselves entered it with the brigades of the aforesaid.

As the letter however certifies the damages, they lament them to the death, it being their intention and that of their Lord Bernabo (Visconti) to respect the Mantuan territory like the Milanese itself.

They did not receive the letter until the day on which they date their answer, and trust the Lord of Mantua will be pleased to accept this apology as "we John Hawkwood offer as far as in our power to make good the loss, in such wise that your lordship aforesaid may henceforth be deservedly satisfied with said company, and thus are we most strictly enjoined by our Lord," &c., &c.

(Signed) Johannes Haukuted, cap̃nes.
Jacobus de Cavallis, miles.
Conradolus Deponte.

From the camp at Villafranca, 20 April 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 9 lines.*]

May 15. Mantuan Archives.

**62.** Sir John Hawkwood to Lodovico Gonzaga.

In reply to the assertion that the Englishman Sir William twice attacked the Castle of Caneto with his brigade, although he has only two horses there, states that orders had been sent to him and others in those parts, should any plunder have been made, to restore it forthwith, and gives assurance that he will always act so as to satisfy Ludovic Gonzaga; adding that to this effect he had written to the constable, desiring him to treat the Mantuan territory "like that of our Lord the Lord of Milan."

As to the charge made, that on the preceding day the English company made a foray on the Castle of Ceresari capturing some Veronese footmen, &c., the answer is, that certain outlaws from Verona, skulking through thickets, made their way like footpads to Asola, with the intention of seizing the subjects of the Lord Bernabo, and insulting the "company's" baggage; but the inhabitants of Asola gave chase to the pillagers, who on their way to the enemy's camp were pursued by some of the English company, who came up with them beyond the Castle of Ceresari, and all were captured; no

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other outrage was committed, save that according to report one man was killed for wounding the English horses. Declares that not having had the slightest idea that the Mantuan territory had been violated, he immediately caused all the prisoners to be released although they deserved severe punishment as pilferers; and promises to quit the Mantuan territory with all his forces on the morrow at the latest, and that whilst in the field, he will assuredly make amends for all damage; requesting the Lord of Mantua to be pleased this time to show all patience for his sake.

Publice,* 15 May 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 19 lines.*]

May 19. Mantuan Archives.

**63.** Sir John Hawkwood to Lodovico Gonzaga.

Complains of the seizure by Mantuan subjects of certain cattle sent by Hawkwood from the camp at Gazoldo, and demands their restitution, according to the statement to be made by bearer of the letter, the attendant Astolfo.

Piubega, 19 May 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 4 lines.*]

May 20. Mantuan Archives.

**64.** The Same to the Same.

Credentials in favour of Andrew de Cantella and Adam Sale.

Piubega, 20 May 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 3 lines.*]

May 30. Mantuan Archives.

**65.** John Thornbury to the Lord of Mantua, Lodovico Gonzaga.

Alludes to the accident which had befallen him. Mentions that arrangements have been made for his release, and that he has determined to go to Mantua. Humbly requests a residence or quiet dwelling there, that he may see to his ransom more at ease than in a hostel, declaring himself ready to pay what shall be necessary, &c.†

From the English camp at Villafranca against Verona the penultimate day of May 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 5 lines.*]

July 29. Mantuan Archives.

**66.** William Gold, constable-general in the English camp under Verona, to the Lord of Mantua, Lodovico Gonzaga.

Announces the flight from the camp in the past night of one Ulrei, a German servant of his comrade Jenkin Botarch, taking with him a bay horse, a breastplate, and a flask set in silver belonging to his master; also of the servant of Robert Latham, Mark Doemius, who in like manner took away a horse, a breastplate, and many other things belonging to his master. Requests that if the thieves present themselves at the Mantuan customhouses they be imprisoned.

29 July 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 8 lines.*]

* La Piubega in the Mantuan territory on the Seriola Pubblica.

† Sir John Thornbury seems to have been in the service of the Scaligers and captured by Sir John Hawkwood's company.

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July 30. Mantuan Archives.

**67.** WILLIAM GOLD, constable-general in the English camp under Verona, to the LORD of MANTUA, LODOVICO GONZAGA.

Tells of a certain Janet who had been long at his disposal, and used occasionally to go from Venice to Mantua, having in her possession upwards of 500 florins belonging to him. Earnestly requests the Lord of Mantua to have her detained under safe custody, and to give him notice accordingly.

The camp near Monzambano,* 30 July 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 5 lines.*]

July 31. Mantuan Archives.

**68.** The SAME to the nobleman the CAPTAIN JACOPO DE COBAGNATIS at Volta.

Complains of a scarcity of rye for his horses, and asks him for two cart loads of that grain, as his servant whom he sent thither on the preceding day had been unable to obtain any.

The camp at Monzambano, 31 July.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 5 lines.*]

Aug. 2. Mantuan Archives.

**69.** The SAME to the LORD of MANTUA, LODOVICO GONZAGA.

Repeats his demand for the arrest of Janet whom he understands has got to Mantua. Wishes to have diligent search made for her in the hostelries and to be made acquainted with the result, as nothing in the world would give him greater pleasure.

The English camp at Monzambano, 2 August 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 8 lines.*]

Aug. 4. Mantuan Archives.

**70.** WILLIAM GOLD, constable-general in the English camp under Verona, to the LORD of MANTUA, LODOVICO GONZAGA.

Acknowledges the receipt of a letter from him concerning Janet. Says, in reply, that he has done, will do, and is ready to do his lordship more honor than any French "Madam." He therefore requests him to have her detained at his disposal, until he send one of his attendants for her. Apologises for writing to so great and mighty a lord on such a subject, but ventures so to do, thinking his lordship may be able to make use of him in matters of greater moment. Requests orders may be given for the detention of Janet at Mantua, until he send thither his secretary Donato de Bologna, or some one else, to give legal proof of the sums due to him from her.

The camp under Verona, 4 August 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 14 lines.*]

Aug. 6. Mantuan Archives.

**71.** The SAME to the SAME,

Has received the letter from him, announcing the arrest of Janet of France. Requests that she may be kept at his disposal in some safe place until the arrival of the secretary to urge his claims, the delay being caused by press of business in the camp. Declares that if Janet were not his debtor for 500 gold florins and upwards, he would not write such things, and that if she be put into safe custody

* Monzambano, on the Mincio, to the south of Peschiera.

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he shall consider the obligation so great, that on his uttering a word he will serve him with 500 spears and upwards. The Doge should bear in mind that sweet love overcometh proud hearts. Knows nothing of her husband. Should any expenses be incurred on her account promises immediate payment even to the amount of 1,000 florins, provided she be kept in safe ward. Her assertion that she has a husband is denied, as she was taken away from the writer furtively; wherefore, though it may be a trifle against the law, yet to settle the matter he requests she may be placed in a nunnery, at his disposal, and not allowed to depart until he sends a servant for her. Should this favour be granted, declares that Gonzaga will oblige not only him, but the whole English company.

The camp under Verona, 6 August 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 21 lines.*]

Aug. 6. Mantuan Archives.

**72.** Sir John Hawkwood to the Lord Lodovico Gonzaga.

One of the chief commanders of the English company, by name Sabraam, was lately robbed in the Mantuan territory of two horses and sundry swords and travelling bags containing property; and whereas the Lord Lodovico gave orders for the entire restitution of the property, a bag, which had been full, and whose contents were notified to the Mantuan secretary, has been returned empty. Therefore demands the missing effects, in such wise that no mischief may ensue, lest Sabraam and the company have cause to do something mutually disagreeable.

The camp at Monzambano, 6 August 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 9 lines.*]

Aug. 8. Mantuan Archives.

**73.** Sir John Hawkwood to the Lord Ludovico Gonzaga.

Acknowledges the receipt of a letter from his lordship, whose envoy, Bertolino de Codelupo, has been to him at Milan complaining of damage done to the subjects and territory of Mantua by his troops.

Expresses regret, and assures Gonzaga that such excesses pain him greatly, as he would fain protect Mantuan territories and subjects like those of his Lord Bernabo. Agreed with Codelupo that when in a fitting place he would cause the company to make amends either wholly or in part; but the present moment is unfitting for this, the brigade being in want, and Hawkwood being compelled to burden it for certain services required by his masters. He therefore urges Gonzaga not to take this amiss, promising indubitably, when he has the company under control in some city or place, to levy the indemnity to his satisfaction, concerning which he has communicated with his lordship's captain of Volta; and concludes with offers of service, &c.

The camp at Monzambano, 8 August 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 16 lines.*]

Aug. 9. Mantuan Archives.

**74.** William Gold, constable-general of the English Company, to Ludovico Gonzaga Lord of Mantua, Imperial Vicar-General.

Returns thanks for the reply concerning Janet of France, and more thanks for the zeal and love thus demonstrated in his

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favour. And because love "overcometh all things—since it even prostrates the stout, making them impatient, taking all heart from them, even casting down into the depths the summits of tall towers, suggesting strife, so that it drags them into deadly duel, as hath happened to and befallen me for the sake of this Janet, my heart yearning so towards her, that by no means can I be at rest, or do otherwise and consider the lovers should be succoured—therefore on my bended knees I devoutly beseech your lordship to put everything else aside, and so ordain and command that the said Janet neither may nor can go forth from Mantua nor from your territory until I send for her, as in other letters of yours it was answered me. But let her be detained at my suit, for if you should have a thousand golden florins spent for her, I will pay them without delay; for if I should have to follow her to Avignon I will obtain this woman. Now my lord, should I be asking a trifle contrary to law, yet ought you not to cross me in this, for some day I shall do more for you than a thousand united French women could effect; and if there be need of me in a matter of greater import, you shall have for the asking a thousand spears at my back. Therefore, in conclusion, again and again I entreat that this Janet may be put in a safe place unknown to anybody, and there kept until I send some servant of mine for her with a letter from myself, for I would do more for you in greater matters. And I pray you thwart me not about putting her in a safe place, for you alone and no one else are Lord in Mantua."

The camp under Verona, 9 August 1378.

P.S. "I beseech by all means, that said Janet may not quit Mantua, but be in safe custody; and so you will have obliged me or ever."

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 22 lines.*]

Oct. 17. Mantuan Archives.

**75.** Sir John Hawkwood to Lodovico de Gonzaga.

Is sending to Mantua his servant Perino de la Lacta, the bearer, for the purchase of ten cart-loads of Gazoldo wine, for his own use and that of his household.

Requests the Lord of Mantua to grant the necessary licence.

Cremona, 17 October 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 3 lines.*]

Dec. 3. Mantuan Archives.

**76.** The Constable and Captain of the Italian Company of St. George to Lodovico Gonzaga.

Acknowledge the receipt of his lordship's letter of the preceding day, inquiring the cause of the coming of the company into the Mantuan territory. They answer respectfully, that the length of the march prevented them from riding farther yesterday, and that on the morning when they write, their intention of raising the camp was frustrated by the bad weather. On this account they request permission to remain today and tomorrow, but are ready to move with the whole company to any other place his lordship may appoint, and will take with them a Mantuan commissary so that together they may prevent any damage.

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Request a safeconduct for three of the company to perambulate Mantua with thirty horse and their arms, going and returning throughout the territory without molestation.

*Signed:* "Cost capitañ Societatis Italicorum Scti Georgij."

From the village of Marmirolo, 3 December 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 9 lines.*]

Dec. 27. Mantuan Archives.

**77.** A CAPTAIN and one of the ITALIAN COMPANY of ST. GEORGE to LODOVICO GONZAGA.

Credentials of Uxilettus d'Adilardie charged to make a verbal communication to the Lord of Mantua concerning vintners.

From the camp at Marmirolo, 27 December 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 3 lines.*]

Dec. 28. Mantuan Archives.

**78.** A CAPTAIN and one of the ITALIAN COMPANY of ST. GEORGE to LODOVICO GONZAGA.

Announce the wish of some of the company, who say they have been denied admittance, to provide themselves with certain necessaries at Mantua and redeem many of their pledges. Request that for this purpose they may be allowed free ingress and egress from the city.

From the camp at Marmirolo, 28 December 1378.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 4 lines.*]

1379.

Feb. 18. Mantuan Archives.

**79.** COUNT LUCIO LANDO and SIR JOHN HAWKWOOD to LODOVICO DE GONZAGA, LORD of MANTUA.

Their Lord (Bernarbo Visconti) has forbidden the prisoners made by them recently at the passage of the Adige to traverse his territory. As the term assigned them for presenting themselves is expiring, Count Lucio, Hawkwood, and his comrades have determined to prolong it, and have therefore accredited with full powers to the Lord of Mantua the noble and prudent man, Ulric Ofsteten, the bearer, and request his lordship to admit him and his followers into Mantua, for the purpose of prolonging the term assigned to the said prisoners. As on this account it will behove him to go to Verona and return with them, request that he and the prisoners likewise may be admitted into Mantua, and that the Lord Ludovic will grant him an escort should it be necessary.

Pontevico, 18 February 1379.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 5 lines.*]

Feb. 19. Mantuan Archives.

**80.** SIR JOHN HAWKWOOD to LODOVICO DE GONZAGA, LORD of MANTUA.

Announces a slight misunderstanding between him and his Lord the Lord of Milan (Bernabo Visconti), but with God's assistance, hopes to recover his favour, and whatever may be the result will give the Lord of Mantua notice thereof.

Monerino, 19 February 1379.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 5 lines.*]

1379.
March 2. Mantuan Archives.

**81.** SIR JOHN HAWKWOOD to LODOVICO DE GONZAGA, LORD of MANTUA.

Having that morning received his lordship's letter, is riding to Count Lucio to effect the restitution of the property plundered in the Mantuan territory, to which it alludes, and thanks him for giving the company.

Coxletici (*sic*), 2 March 1379.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 4 lines.*]

March 3. Mantuan Archives.

**82.** The SAME to the SAME.

Announces the arrival on the preceding day of his son-in-law, Sir William Coggeshal,* from Milan, where he has long resided. He wishes to go to Bagnacavallo with some 60 horse, and therefore Hawkwood requests a safeconduct for him by the bearer.

Caxatici (*sic*), 3 March 1379.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 4 lines.*]

March 24. Mantuan Archives.

**83.** WILLIAM GOLD, constable-general of the English Company, to LUDOVIC DE GONZAGA, LORD of MANTUA.

Writes that, wanting some horses, he is sending to Mantua and Ferrara his beloved comrade, the Englishman Colin Campbell (Anglicum Comolinum Zambalem), for whose passage through the Mantuan territory with 10 horses he requests a safeconduct.

Offers his services, and returns hearty thanks for the great gifts conferred on him when in the county of Mantua.

From the Hospital of St. John's (mansione Sancti Johannis), in the county of Bologna, 24 March 1379.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 6 lines.*]

June 6. Mantuan Archives.

**84.** SIR JOHN HAWKWOOD to the LORD of MANTUA, LODOVICO DE GONZAGA.

This day a dark bay horse has been stolen from a certain corporal of the company, by name Cipolletta. Requests that, if found, it may be returned for his sake, and according to the statement of the bearer and to what he knows on the subject.

Villafranca, 6 June 1379.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 4 lines.*]

July 3. Mantuan Archives.

**85.** The SAME to the SAME.

Recommends the Englishman, Nicholas Tanfield, who has to go into the Mantuan territory on business, and especially about a prisoner—kept by him in Hawkwood's town of Gazolo† (in ĩra nĩa Gazoli), but now in the Mantuan territory—who has escaped from the hands of Hawkwood's official, Astolfo. Requests that he may be given up or his ransom paid, and will consider anything done for Tanfield in this matter as a favour conferred upon himself. Has come to reside at Bagnacavallo; has 300 spears without pay in the

* From this it may be inferred that in May 1377, when he married Donina Visconti, Sir John Hawkwood was a widower with a grown-up family.

† Gazolo, in the Mantuan territory. This is the first mention I have met with of Hawkwood's possessing any other towns besides Bagnacavallo and Cotognola.

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territory of Faenza. Count Lucio remains in the March (of Ancona) with 500 spears, and Hawkwood has placed the rest of his troops in the pay of Tuscany, namely, 600 German spears and 500 English. There are no other news in those parts, but should anything occur, he will take care to notify it to his lordship.

Bagnacavallo, 3 July 1379.

[*Original, on paper, Latin,* 11 *lines.*]

July 7. Mantuan Archives.

**86.** SIR JOHN HAWKWOOD to the LORD of MANTUA, LODOVICO DE GONZAGA.

This morning 100 spears of the brigade brought by him from the March (of Ancona) entered the service of the community of Bologna; and the remainder—some 250 and upwards, including spears and archers, under the command of the constable, William Gold, whom for a stipulated sum they were to serve during the whole of the present month—have gone towards Forli and those parts to back certain barons of the Romagna, whose names are a secret,* though they are expected to attack Guido (di Polenta) of Ravenna and Astorre Manfredi. Adds that he himself is remaining at Bagnacavallo with 50 or 60 spears. There are no other news.

*Signed:* "Miles Anglicus."

Bagnacavallo, 7 July 1379.

[*Original, on paper, Latin,* 9 *lines.*]

Aug. 28. Mantuan Archives.

**87.** The SAME to the SAME.

Requests Ludovico Gonzaga to give licence to convey through the Mantuan territory, from Gazolo to Bagnacavallo, 100 head of animals, great and small, and 500 axes.

Bagnacavallo, 28 August 1379.

[*Original, on paper, Latin,* 4 *lines.*]

Sept. 7. Mantuan Archives.

**88.** DONINA VISCONTI LADY HAWKWOOD to LUDOVICO DE GONZAGA, LORD of MANTUA.

Announces her thorough comprehension of his lordship's letter delivered by her servant, Jacopo de la Credenza. Returns immense thanks for everything and for his lordship's good will, requesting him to send to her on all occasions, she being grateful and ever ready to do what pleases him.

Bagnacavallo, 7 September 1379.

*Signed:* "Donina ex Vicecomitibus Mediolani, &c., consors D. Johis Haucud."

[*Original, on paper, Latin,* 4 *lines.*]

Oct. 18. Mantuan Archives.

**89.** SIR JOHN HAWKWOOD to LODOVICO GONZAGA.

Returns thanks for what he had done for his service in favour of his factors and servants. Requests to be informed if he can in any way do him pleasure.

The only news he can give are that Dom. Giovanni Alberghettini and his son Almeric lately marched with cavalry by Val di Lamon

* The chief of these barons was Galeotto Malatesta.

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to attack the Castle of Meddola,* which they would perhaps have soon taken; but Francesco, the brother of Astor (Manfredi), hearing of this, mustered a number of retainers, and succoured the place, intercepting Almeric, the son of Dom. Giovanni, who had collected as many as 500 followers, putting them to flight, killing a good 500, and making many prisoners.

Requests that justice may be done for his servant, Adam Sale, against one Astolfo of Pavia, resident in the Mantuan territory.

Bagnacavallo, 18 October 1379.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 10 lines.*]

1380.

Jan. 31. Mantuan Archives.

**90.** WALTER BONET, an English knight, to LUDOVICO DE GONZAGA, LORD of MANTUA.

Is sending to his lordship the bearer, his squire and confident, William Soyden, an Englishman, to ask a safeconduct of him for the conveyance from the Cremonese and elsewhere through the Mantuan territory, duty free, of 500 measures of wheat for his own supply and that of his attendants, as far as the Venetian territory, his quarters—he being in the Republic's pay—and likewise of certain other things and provisions; by so much the more as he has already obtained a like favour from his lord, the Lord Bernabo of Milan. He earnestly requests this as a special favour, that he may thus be enabled to live at ease.

Bologna, 31 January 1380.

[*Original, on paper, Latin, 5 lines.*]

Feb. 4. Venetian Archives, Commemoriali, v. viii. p. 35.

**91.** TREATY of RECONCILIATION between the ENGLISH and GERMAN SOLDIERY on one side and the ITALIANS on the other, in the service of Venice against the Genoese.

Details the affray on the preceding evening at Palestrina between 7 and 8 p.m. The names of the parties to the treaty are as follow:—Sir Walter Benedict, William Cook, Englishmen, Thomas Ellis, marshal of the English, Walter Maine, Robert More, Henricus Runz, Arnoldus de Sambach, Germans, John de Basset (de Berzete) and Cantelupe (Cantelletus) of England, for themselves and in their own names, as also in the name and on behalf of all and each of of their comrades, attendants, and accomplices, whether English or of any other nation, on the one part; and on the other, Giacopo de Pepoli, Checco de' Ordelaffi, Pandolfo de Cavalcaboi, Melchior Vitaliani, Gulielmo de Lisca, Fazio Count of Bruscolo, Bernardo of Cauriaco, marshal of the Italians, Domenico de Bentivogli, Georgio de' Alidosij, Nerio de Sesummo, for themselves and in their own names, and also in the name and on behalf of all and each of their comrades, attendants, and accomplices, whether Italians or of any other nation, &c. &c. Document witnessed by Tadeo Justiniano, knight, Nicolao Contarini, knight, Pietro Mocenigo, Pietro Aimo, Francesco Contarini, Luca Contarini, Bellato Gradenigo, Lorenzo Gradenigo, Andrea Forzate, Joanne

* Three leagues to the S.W. of Ravenna.

1380.

Andrea de Roverio, Jacobo de Roverio, Traversio de Monfumo of Treviso, and Pietro de Saracenis, notary.

From the quarter-deck of Doge Andrea Contarini's galley in the harbour of Chioggia, 4 February 1380.

[*Contemporary transcript, on parchment, Latin, 65 lines. Published A.D. 1790 by Giambatista Verci, Storia della Marca Trivigiana, vol. xv., documents, p. 34.*]

April 27. Book of Privileges, Venetian Archives, p. 36.

**92.** PATENT from DOGE ANDREA CONTARINI for WILLIAM GOLD.

As it is the custom of the ducal prudence liberally to reward valiant and strenuous individuals, liberally granting the requests of such as show themselves devoted to the duchy, &c., and considering the manifold proofs of faith and devotion afforded by the valiant and strenuous man, William Gold, an Englishman, son of the late valiant man William, his prompt affection and ready service, &c. &c., his petition is graciously conceded, namely, that the said William—the necessary form of all the Venetian magistracies and ordinances being observed—be perpetually received as a Venetian citizen, and henceforth considered such in Venice and elsewhere, enjoying all the liberties, benefits, immunities, and honours enjoyed by other Venetian citizens. Thereupon William Gold swore allegiance on the Holy Gospels, and the Doge ordered the present privilege to be made and to be furnished with his pendent golden seal.

27 April 1380.

[*Registered transcript, on parchment, Latin, 24 lines.*]

June 20. Commemoriali, v. viii. p. 35.

**93.** ARTICLES stipulated by DOGE ANDREA CONTARINI with the SOLDIERS in the camp under Chioggia, in case they took that city from the Genoese.

Signed by Doge Andrea Contarini and other Venetian noblemen on one part, and by the valiant and noble men, William Gold, Richard Sanfort, and their comrades, in number 22, on the other.

[*Transcript, on parchment, Latin, 75 lines. Publ. in the "Storia della Maria Trivigiana," vol. xv., pp. 41–43.*]

July 4. Commemoriali, v. viii.

**94.** GRANT by DOGE ANDREA CONTARINI to the valiant man the Englishman WILLIAM GOLD, constable, &c.

Setting forth the valiant service done by him at the siege of Chioggia, for which, observing the fitting forms of the Venetian magistracies, the Doge decrees him an annual pension for life of 500 ducats of good gold; and, relying on his probity, stipulates that, if the State require it, he is to repair to Venice from any place soever in which he may be, such terms and stipend as fitting and fair being conceded him: in testimony of which this patent is made out and furnished with the Doge's leaden seal.

[*Transcript, on parchment, Latin, 12 lines.*]

1383.

March 3. **95.** DECREE of the SENATE.

"Misti Senato." v. xxxviii. p. 12. That in reply to the letter of the King of England, answer be made to his envoy, in conformity with the reply given to the Pope, that we keep ourselves aloof from the business, on account of our position.

[*Latin*, 3¾ *lines.*]

1384.

Aug. 3. **96.** DECREE of the SENATE announcing intelligence from Flanders, to the effect that all wool and cloths of every sort were to be shipped on board three Genoese coggos, so that the Republic's galleys, which had been fitted out at such great cost, would find no merchandise at all, or but a middling quantity. The captain also writes that he could not complete his cargo, and recommended going to Hampton. Therefore it is put to the ballot that an express be sent to Flanders, desiring him instantly to assemble his council, including all the masters of the galleys and all the merchants; and, should the majority be of his opinion, he is on the return to take the galleys to Hampton, and remain there during such period as shall be determined, loading all goods whether for Leghorn or Venice.

"Misti Senato." v. xxxviii. p.150.

During his stay in England, the captain is earnestly desired not to allow the oarsmen to go on shore, for the avoidance of affrays and mischief.

[*Latin*, 26 *lines.*]

1385.

Jan. 10. **97.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage, to remain 40 days in Flanders, Brabant, or Middleburg; on arriving in which parts the captain is to assemble the masters of the galleys and the Venetian merchants of the place, to the number of twelve in all, who, after carefully considering the state of the country, must determine by the majority, as speedily as possible, to which place—Flanders, Brabant, or Middleburg—they are to go for the advantage of their trade. But if the aforesaid council or the majority deem it for the advantage of all that any part of the galleys should go to any other parts of Flanders, or Brabant, or Middleburg, or to Hampton—in that case they must dispatch them within 20 days after their arrival at the appointed places, always with the understanding that, dating from their arrival at the first port, the galleys may not remain in any other parts where they shall arrive subsequently beyond the 50 days above written.

"Misti Senato." v. xxxix. p. 32.

[*Latin*, 36 *lines.*]

1386.

May 8. **98.** DECREE of the SENATE.

"Misti Senato." v. xl. p. 28. Heretofore, for the good and advantage of the masters and merchants of our Flanders galleys, it was conceded to their captains and masters that they, together with twelve other noblemen of ours, whilst in the port of Sluys, might by a vote of the majority determine on sending to Hampton a part of our galleys as should seem fit to them. This concession appearing limited to the captains and masters, be it put to the ballot that, for the good and advantage of our galleys bound on this present voyage, their masters be allowed to go to Hampton, or send part of them thither, but not to remain

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there, or in other places to which they shall go, beyond the 50 days in all conceded them. But, should the captains and masters whilst in those parts find it perilous to go to Hampton, be it left at their option to go or not go, always having regard for the safety of our squadron; the captain being forbidden to remain alone either going or returning.

Be the masters bound, under penalty, to receive all the goods of our citizens and merchants, and of others wishing to bring such to Venice, so that by no means may such merchandise remain behind.

[*Latin*, 12 *lines*.]

1387.

Aug. 19. Register 3. Criminal Court of the Forty.

**99.** DECREE of the CRIMINAL COURT of the FORTY, authorizing Dominick de Jean, the envoy of the Grand Master of Rhodes, for whose account he lately brought from England to Venice some 8,000 golden ducats for conveyance to Rhodes, that an armament may be made against the Turks, to ship that sum on board the Venetian trading galleys, paying freight as he requests; and this out of love and regard for the Grand Master.

[*Latin*, 8 *lines*.]

1388.

Aug. 28. Chapter Library of Cividale.

**100.** MISSIVE from 800 ENGLISH SOLDIERS of the COMPANY of ST. GEORGE to JOHN of MORAVIA, PATRIARCH of AQUILEIA.

Announce that having heard that certain rebels to the Patriarch are meditating war against him, they, prompted by natural affection and anxious to save his territory and honour, have by unanimous consent given credentials to the strenuous knight, Sir Robert de Fetton. He is an English nobleman in waiting on the Queen regnant of England, and will acquaint his paternity that 800 Englishmen of the brigade of St. George, men-at-arms, and archers (of which last there are 260) wish to enter his service, on the terms to be stated by the bearer, &c., &c. Dated the 28th day of August, "in our camp at Serra near Fabriano, in the March" [of Ancona].

Signed by Sir John Armesthorp, John Barry, Robert Loc, Roger Baker, and Richard Swynefor.

[*Latin*, 20 *lines*.]

Sept. 16. Chapter Library of Cividale.

**101.** PIETRO MOROSINI to the PATRIARCH of AQUILEIA.

Informs him that he has conferred with the Doge, and that the Signory has made a fitting reply to the Ambassadors from Udine.

Has been visited at Venice by Sir Robert de Fetton, the bearer of the present letter. Sir Robert went in quest of him, knowing him to be the Patriarch's servant, and communicated the proposals of the company. Answered as by the enclosed paper, and suggests that, if approved, the Patriarch should send him his seal, and power to seal with the company, provided permission be given by the Patriarch's senate. After settling, the Patriarch may send Sir John back to him at Ferrara with the seal and permission to conclude; and in the meanwhile the Patriarch will see the course of affairs, and whether the Signory can effect an adjustment.

[*Latin*, 38 *lines*.]

1390.
Jan. 11. "Misti Senato." v. xli. p. 52.

**102.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders voyage, &c.

The galleys to remain in Flanders, at Sluys, or Middleburg, or Calais (as shall be determined by the captain and masters, or by the majority of them) for fifty days, those of arrival and departure not included; but be the captain and masters at liberty to send one of the aforesaid galleys to Hampton or to the parts of England, not going beyond Hampton, provided they shall have previously remained ten days at the first port made by them (in Flanders) for trading purposes.

[*Latin*, 130 *lines.*]

March 4. "Misti Senato." v. xli. p. 64.

**103.** DECREE of the SENATE ordering the payment of 12 livres, 12 solidi and 6 gross to the Englishman, John Chaplet (Zapeleti), captain of the Republic's spears and archers in the territory of Conegliano, for arrears due to his men.

[*Latin*, 4 *lines.*]

May 13. "Misti Senato." v. i. p. 76.

**104.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Allowing Fantino Michiel, master of one of the Flanders galleys, having the captain on board, to go to England in the galley bound thither, similar concessions being frequently made to the master of the Beirout galleys.

[*Latin*, 7 *lines.*]

1391.
Dec. 19. "Misti Senato." v. xlii. p. 35.

**105.** DECREE of the SENATE for the fitting out of two galleys for Flanders voyage, &c., &c.

One of them, on board of which the captain shall be, to go to Sluys, the other to go to London. In those places they are to remain forty days, those of arrival and departure not included. When the galleys shall be off "Caput Doble" the captain so to regulate that all merchandise be taken to the place for which it shall be destined.

[*Latin*, 140 *lines.*]

1392.
March 29. "Misti Senato." v. xlii. p. 51.

**106.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Whereas the entire cargo of one of the Flanders galleys, and four fifths of the other, consist of goods for Flanders, there being only one fifth for London, the captain of the Flanders galleys is charged, when at "Caput Dople, vel ad Sc̄um" (*sic*), to load all the goods shipped for London on board vessels of those parts in charge of as many men from the galleys' crews as may be sufficient. The cost of the ships to be defrayed by the masters.

In case the galleys be unable to make "Caput Dople" or anchor, or should they not find ships there, the captain to act as shall seem best to him.

[*Latin*, 21 *lines.*]

1392.

**107.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Nov. 18. "Misti Senato." v. xlii. p. 88.

Lord Henry of Lancaster, Earl of Derby, Hereford, and Northampton, Lord of Brecon ("Breben," for Breken), the eldest son of the Duke of Aquitaine, and the Lord Duke of Austria, requesting the hull of a galley, with all necessary tackle, to visit the holy places,—Be it put to the ballot that the said Duke and Earl be freely accommodated, the Earl arming the galley at his own cost.

The College of our Signory to provide the galley's hull and its outfit, but on board it no merchandise may be shipped, nor may the Earl take any passenger.

And be this answer and offer made to his ambassadors, they being informed of the cost incurred for the galley and tackle, for which we have declined all payment.

Ayes, 42. Noes, 4. Neutrals, 1.

[*Latin*, 18 *lines.*]

Nov. 30.

**108.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Register, Grand Council, "Leona." p. 61.

To honour the Earl of Derby, the eldest son of the Duke of Lancaster, "the intimate friend of our Signory, on this his coming to Venice, bound for the Holy Sepulchre, there be expended of the public money, for all costs soever, 360 ducats, in such manner as shall seem fit to the counsellors, chiefs, and sages of the Council, or to the majority, for the honour of our state and benefit of our affairs."

Motion carried by six counsellors, three chiefs, 34 of the Forty, and three parts and upwards of the Grand Council.

[*Latin*, 8 *lines.*]

Dec. 30. "Misti Senato." v. xlii. p. 90.

**109.** DECREE of the SENATE for the fitting out of three galleys for the Flanders voyage, &c. &c.

Two of the three galleys to go to Sluys, the captain to be on board one of them, the third to go to London. In those places they are to remain forty days. The shipper of merchandise for Flanders to load on board the two galleys thither bound, and the shipper for London on board the galley bound for that port. If the London galley have room, and the masters choose to take more goods for Flanders, they may be loaded on board the London galley in such quantity as to complete its cargo; the like system being observed with the galleys bound to Flanders, should they have room.

These goods the captain, when at "Caput Doble," to convey to Flanders and to London by the ships of those parts, or otherwise as shall seem fit to him, at the risk and expense of the masters, in such wise that all goods be taken to the places for which they shall be loaded.

Item, be the masters bound to send by the first messenger going to Flanders for the necessary safeconducts in full, both for Flanders and London, so that the galleys may go with more safety.

[*Latin*, 126 *lines.*]

1393.
March 31. **110.** DECREE of the GRAND COUNCIL.

Register, Grand Council, "Leona." p. 64. To honour the Earl of Derby, son of the Duke of Lancaster, on this his return, be there expended one hundred golden ducats of the public money as shall seem fit to the Signory. Motion carried by six counsellors, three chiefs, and 36 of the Forty.

[*Latin*, 4 *lines.*]

Dec. 3. **111.** DECREE of the SENATE.

"Misti Senato." v. xlii. p. 139. Ordering the masters of the Flanders galleys, whether in Venice, Flanders, London, or elsewhere, to be fair in their dealings and receive all goods indiscriminately; and whereas both on the outward and homeward voyage they prevent merchants from landing goods until after the discharge of their own, they shall henceforth allow such to be landed, whether of the same description as the goods belonging to the masters themselves or not, under penalty, &c.

[*Latin*, 27 *lines.*]

Dec. 11. **112.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders voyage.

"Misti Senato." v. xlii. p. 142. One to go to London, the others with the captain to Sluys as usual. As the London galley may have a superabundant cargo, the captain to arrange with its master to be informed by him, by letter, whether he be overloaded; in which case, all the surplus cargo to be sent by the ships of those parts towards "Caput Doble" at the cost of the owners; to which parts, at the fitting time, the captain is to send one of his other galleys, with such method and order that their return be not delayed, the utmost care being had for the safety of the galleys and the goods.

Ayes, 38. 38. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 1. 1.

[*Latin*, 24 *lines.*]

1894.
March 15. **113.** DECREE of the SENATE.

"Misti Senato." v. xlii. p. 155. That for the benefit of the galley bound to London and of our merchants, the state do write letters of recommendation to the King of England, the Duke of Lancaster, and others.

[*Latin*, 12 *lines.*]

Dec. 30. **114.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage of the best in the arsenal.

"Misti Senato." v. xliii. p. 38. Two to go to Sluys, and two to London, to remain in those places 50 days, not including the days of arrival and departure; this period not to be exceeded under penalty to the captain of 400 livres, and of 200 to each of the masters, the remission of these fines being prohibited,—any mover or seconder of a motion to that effect incurring a penalty of 400 livres.

Shippers for Flanders to load on board the galleys thither bound, and shippers for London on board the London galleys. But should these last have room, and the masters choose to receive additional freight for Flanders, they may thus complete their cargo, doing the like by the Flanders galleys with regard to London should they have room. When at "Caput Doble" the captain to have these goods

1394.

shipped for Flanders or London on board the vessels of those parts, or otherwise as shall seem best to him, at the risk and cost of the masters, so that all goods be taken to the place for which destined, providing for their safety in such form as shall seem most advantageous. And lest, from want of money, the galleys be detained in those parts beyond the appointed term, be each of the masters bound, ten days before his departure from Venice, to present the Signory with bills of exchange on Flanders and London for 1,500 ducats, so that the captain of the galleys, when in the aforesaid parts, may receive the amount from those on whom they may be drawn for the succour of the galley crews, should need be; and should the masters not present similar bills, the councillors to stop their freights to the amount required, the State attorneys acting so that the said bills be consigned to the captain of the galleys before his departure.

Before the departure of the galleys, the masters of the two bound to London to be approved in this Council; and the one having a majority of votes to assume the post of vicecaptain when the two galleys part company from the captain off "Caput Doble," with the same commission and liberty throughout as the captain, who, off "Caput Doble," will consign to him our bills of exchange drawn here to his order.

To prevent any fraud in paying the crews, the masters to disburse to each man three months' pay in Venice, one month in the lagoons (in canali), and such sum in Flanders and London as shall seem fit to the captain and vicecaptain, &c.; the ducat being paid in money according to the rate of exchange.

The masters to send by the first messenger going to Flanders for the necessary safeconducts both from thence and from London.

Proposed amendment:—That the galleys be three in number—two of which to go to Flanders and one to London.

Ayes, 14. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 1.

[*Latin*, 187 *lines.*]

1395.

Feb. 4. **115.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Secreta Senato Deliberazioni. v. iii. E. p. 105.

The Marshal of Burgundy appeared in the presence of the Signory, saying that he awaited the Hungarian ambassadors here during 12 days, and as they came not he required an answer for the Lord Duke of Burgundy and the Lords Dukes of Orleans and Lancaster concerning the embassy announced by him.

It is put to the ballot that, as the principals in this matter were not present, no deliberate reply can be given; but on hearing the said ambassadors, the Signory will be sincerely disposed as of yore under similar circumstances.

Ayes, 81. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 0.

Councillors: Ser Marco Falier, Ser Marin Caravello.

[*Latin*, 14 *lines.*]

Feb. 27. **116.** DECREE of the SENATE.

"Misti Senato." v. xliii. p. 47.

That as the two galleys bound to Flanders are so loaded with heavy goods as to be unable to ship spices or other light goods,

1395.

the two galleys bound to Flanders may tranship their heavy goods into the two galleys bound to London, which have not their full cargo, so that those bound to Flanders may take light goods. The captain when at Cap Doble (*sic*) to send the goods loaded for Flanders on board the London galleys, by one or both of them, or by another vessel, at the risk and cost of the masters, as he shall think fit, as far as St. Catharine's Point (ad Caput Sancte Catarine), or elsewhere; provided the galleys taking those goods do not pass the water mark, so that they may be conveyed from thence to Flanders by the ships of those parts, in such way as shall seem most advantageous to the captain. And in case the goods loaded for London on board the galleys conveying merchandise to Flanders, either at said St. Catharine's Point or at any other spot, become liable to any charge for the conveyance of merchandise to London, the masters to pay all proper costs, so that the merchandise by no means suffer any surcharge on this account.

[*Latin*, 31 *lines*.]

March 10. **117.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Secreta Senato Deliberazioni. v. iii. E. p. 108.

That the Hungarian ambassadors be answered, that whenever the King of Hungary, with the Dukes of Burgundy, Orleans, and Lancaster, shall proceed against the Turks by land, the Signory will be prepared to cooperate by by sea..

[*Latin*, 29 *lines*.]

May 8. **118.** RICHARD II.

Commemoriali, v. ix, p. 96.

Registered transcript of letters of safeconduct conceded by Richard II. for Venetian merchants, their merchandise, and six galleys, with other vessels, during six years; dated Westminster, May 8, 19th year of his reign.

By bill of privy seal. *Countersigned:* "Gamisteds."

[*Latin*, 29 *lines*.]

1396.

Jan. 8. **119.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage; two to go to Sluys, and two to London. Regulations the same as on 30th December 1394.

"Misti Senato." v. xliii. p. 190.

[*Latin*, 159 *lines*.]

1397.

Jan. 2. **120.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage; two bound for Sluys, and two for London. General regulations as in preceding years, with the following amendment:—

"Misti Senato." v. xliii. p. 164.

Information having been received that "Caput Doble" is not a port, but a road unsafe (sed statium non bonum), and that 30 miles hitherward there is a good harbour called "Portus Camera" (*sic*),*—be the captain at liberty to go to "Portus Camera, to "Caput" Doble," or to some other place which he

* "Portus Camera" is styled by Hall (ed. 1809, p. 34), "Camber before Rye." By that name this seaport seems to have been known in England in A.D. 1503, the fifth year of Henry IV.'s reign. The word "Camera," may, I apprehend, be translated by "custom house" or "treasury."

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may consider safer for the transhipment of the merchandise, which, should it fall short of 30,000 weight, the captain is to have conveyed to Flanders and London by the ships of those parts. If the merchandise exceed 30,000 weight, he must have it conveyed to Flanders and London by a galley, namely, the one on board of which the vicecaptain is not, as usual.

[*Latin*, 144 *lines.*]

**121.** ELECTION of the VICECAPTAIN.

March 8. "Misti Senato." v. xliii. p. 174.

Scrutiny of the masters of the galleys made in the Senate, for the election of one to exercise the charge of vicecaptain in London, when they part company from the captain at "CaputDoble."

Vicecaptain elected—"Ser" Jacopo Trevisano.

[*Latin*, 5 *lines.*]

1398.

Jan. 15. "Misti Senato." v. xliv. p. 29.

**221.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage, two bound to Sluys, and two to London. Regulations as in the preceding year (alluding to "Caput Doble" and "Portus Camera"), with the following additions:—

That the masters of the galleys during the first 35 days after their arrival in Flanders or London be prohibited to freight goods belonging to aliens. During those 35 days, all Venetians wishing to load goods on board the galleys to notify and give in writing to the masters all and whatsoever they may choose to ship.

On the expiration of that period, the masters to be at liberty to freight for whom they please, with the understanding that aliens who shall have loaded goods in Venice on board the galleys shall be entirely on a par with Venetians, for an amount equal to that shipped by them at Venice.

[*Latin*, 191 *lines.*]

March 5. "Misti Senato." v. xliv. p. 35.

**123.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Appoint "Ser" Nicolo Bragadino vicecaptain of the galleys bound to London, on their parting company from the captain at "Caput Doble."

[*Latin.*]

March 13. Register of Privileges. v. i. p. 127.

**124.** PRIVILEGE of GRACE [conceded] to BERTRAM son of the late WILLIAM GOLD.

Registered patent or diploma of Venetian citizenship to the aforesaid from Doge Antonio Venier, granted on account of his fidelity and devotion to the State, and conferring on him all the benefits, liberties, immunities, and honours enjoyed by other Venetian citizens, he having sworn allegiance, and the original document being furnished with the Doge's pendent golden seal.

[*Latin*, 19 *lines.*]

Aug. 3. Commemoriali, v. ix. p. 3.

**125.** RICHARD II.

Registered transcript of letters of safeconduct conceded by Richard II. at the suit of Antonio Bragadino and Andrea Sisi

1398.

(Ghisi ?), the masters of two Venetian galleys then in the port of London, for the said galleys, and for other masters, galleys, and merchandise bound from Venice to England, &c. Dated Westminster, 3 August, 22nd year of his reign. By the Council.

*Duplicate. Countersigned:* "Stanley."

[*Latin*, 22 *lines.*]

Dec. 18. "Misti Senato." v. xliv. p. 76.

**126.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out five galleys for the Flanders voyage; three bound to Sluys, and the other two to London. General regulations as usual, with the following additions:—

Ten days after the arrival of the captain at Sluys with the three galleys he is to confer with the masters, and, having carefully considered the state of the country, he is then to decide whether all three of the galleys can reasonably expect to obtain full cargoes there,—in which case they are all to remain; but otherwise, if it appear, from lack of goods at Sluys, more advantageous that one should go to London, the third galley is to join the other two in that port, the master placing himself under the command of the vicecaptain there.

Repetition of the clause to the effect that "Caput Doble," not being a port but a road (*stacio*), and unsafe; and that as 20 (*sic*) miles hitherwards there is a good port called "Portus Camera," the captain shall be at liberty to go to either one place or the other.

[*Latin*, 251 *lines.*]

1399.

Jan. 14. "Misti Senato." v. xliv. p. 83.

**127.** APPOINTMENT of ANDREA ZANE by the Senate to be vicecaptain of the two galleys bound to London.

[*Latin*, 4 *lines.*]

Feb. 18. "Misti Senato." v. xliv. p. 88.

**128.** DECREE of the SENATE.

That the Duke of Guilford ("Gilforth," Thomas Mowbray), who wishes to visit the Holy Sepulchre, in whose favour the King of England has written, and who asks of us the loan of one of our galleys for the purpose aforesaid, be gratified; we lending him a galley with its gear, as done in like case by others. Carried by five counsellors.

[*Latin*, 5 *lines.*]

April 4. "Misti Senato." v. xliv. p. 94.

**129.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Refusal of "Ser" Nicolo Bragadino, who has obtained the safeconducts for the galleys bound to London, to surrender them without payment of the cost, amounting to 40 ducats. Order for acquittal of the debt, and for the proveditors to exact it from the Flanders galleys.

[*Latin*, 8 *lines.*]

Sept. 17. Commemoriali, v. ix. p. 96.

**130.** LETTERS PATENT for VENETIAN SUBJECTS, their galleys and tarrits from Richard II.

Registered transcript of a letter of safeconduct, &c., conceded by Richard II. at the request of the captain (vicecaptain ?) Andrew

1399.

Zane and of Jacopo Dandolo, master of the two Venetian galleys then in the port of London. Besides general immunities, as a mark of more ample favour, King Richard grants permission for passengers to sell their small wares on the decks of the galleys; namely, glass vessels and earthenware plates, duty free; and also allows each of the passengers to dispose of one barrel of wine, which is not to contain more than 10 gallons. Proviso against fraud, &c. &c. Addressed to admirals, captains, warders and their lieutenants, customs' collectors, keepers of seaports and other maritime places, sheriffs, bailiffs, provosts, &c. To be valid for the next 10 years.

"Teste me ipso apud Westm̃ decimo septimo die Septembris anno regni nostri vigesimo tercio."

*Countersigned:* "Walt."

[*Contemporaneous transcript on parchment, Latin, 29 lines.*]

Oct. 4.
Commemoriali, v. ix. p. 93.

**131.** HENRY IV. KING of ENGLAND to DOGE ANTONIO VENIER. We have by your letters constant proof of your affection, and that of your commonwealth, and desire to reciprocate it when opportunity or fortune offer. As by right of birth, and by the unanimous consent of the Lords and Commons, we possess the royal sceptre, your citizens and subjects need not fear to come to our realms, for we intend to treat them like our own lieges. Write frequently to us relative to the prosperity of your city and of yourself. Written in London the 4th day of October.

[*Latin*, 11 *lines.*]

1400.

Jan. 4.
"Misti Senato." v. xliv. p. 135.

**132.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out five galleys for the Flanders voyage; three bound to Sluys, and three to London. Prohibition against the stowage of goods in the cabin at the stern, called "scandolarium," at "Caput Doble;" the "scandolaria" of the London galleys to be searched, &c., &c.

[*Latin*, 296 *lines.*]

Jan. 23.
"Misti Senato." v. xliv. p. 138.

**133.** APPOINTMENT of MARCO JUSTINIANO by the Senate to be vicecaptain of the two galleys bound to London.

[*Latin*, 6 *lines.*]

Feb. 10.
"Misti Senato." v. xliv. p. 143.

**134.** MOTION made in the SENATE by the two Sages for the orders,—Andrea Morosini and Tomà Michiel.

As the King of England wrote to our Signory from London, 4 October, announcing his accession, granting facilities and favours to our citizens, and conceding many privileges to our merchants—Put to the ballot that there be elected two ambassadors of ours, to present themselves to the said King. They are to have 250 ducats each for their equipment, on condition that they be bound to have made for themselves velvet gowns of grain-dye or crimson; each may spend eight ducats a day, taking with them for this sum six squires and three pages each, a secretary and servant, a pursuivant, a steward, a cook, and three packhorses; horse grooming or hire

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(*agozia equorum*), and the freight of vessels, not being included in these expenses. Our commonwealth to borrow the money required for this embassy by a levy of half per cent. on all goods conveyed by our galleys and other vessels towards and from London.

Ayes, 12. Noes, 66. Neutrals, 8.

[*Latin*, 24 *lines*.]

March 28. "Misti Senato." v. xlv. p 8.

**135.** MOTION made in the SENATE by the two Sages for the orders,—Giovanni Georgio and Marco Dandolo.

That the vicecaptain and another master of the galleys bound to London be commissioned, in case that during their stay there the King be in London or come thither, or that they should go to his Excellency on other business, to congratulate him on his coronation, according to the tenor of our letters.

Moreover, for caution's sake, should the King not be in London, nor come thither during their stay there, or should they not chance to go to him, let them consign the letter to others for transmission to the King, should they learn that he has not received the others sent by us to him heretofore.

Motion carried.

[*Latin*, 14 *lines*.]

May 18. "Misti Senato," v. xlv. p. 14.

**136.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the costs of safeconducts obtained from the Kings of England and Portugal.

[*Latin*, 8 *lines*.]

Aug. 4. Commemoriali, v. ix. p. 111.

**137.** KING HENRY IV. to DOGE ANTONIO VENIER.

Missive under the signet, acknowledging the receipt of his letter demanding a safeconduct for the Venetian galleys, which the King grants willingly. Newcastle-on-Tyne, 4th August.

[*Latin*, 19 *lines*.]

Dec. 3. Commemoriali, v. ix. p. 152.

**138.** LETTERS PATENT from HENRY IV.

Inspeximus and confirmation of the letters patent in the Chancery Rolls in favour of the Venetians, A.D. 1399, September 17.

Alludes to his grateful recollection of the love and noble complaisance of the Doge of Venice and his subjects thereabouts besides the heavy costs and expenditure lavished in many ways for his honour when he was last in those parts in person. Considering what is aforesaid, and wishing to endow the captains and masters of the Venetian galleys and other tarrits with privileges and favours which may conduce to their tranquillity and advantage, he ratifies and confirms the letters aforesaid for himself and his heirs. Moreover, on the petition of the Doge, he grants and confirms the attestation of the letters, and also concedes to the aforesaid masters and captains, that they and other captains and masters of galleys and tarrits, during the said ten years, on arriving in England shall have prompt and speedy

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dispatch for their return to Venice with their freight of wool, cloth, or tin, or any other merchandise soever, paying customs, subsidies, and other moneys due on such account as usual heretofore and reasonable. During the ten years the King also grants full power to captains and masters to hear and determine all civil causes soever relating to any matters which concern the galleys and tarrits, and their crews, past or future, discussed or for discussion, the immunities of the city of London being preserved throughout. Finally, no one in England may supply the crews with provisions without sufficient security from other persons; and should they do so, it will be at their own risk and peril, as on this account no mariners may be arrested, to the disturbance or hindrance of the passage of the galleys or tarrits.

Westminster, 3 Dec. 2 Hen. IV.

[*Contemporaneous transcript on parchment, Latin, 63 lines.*]

1401.

Jan. 27. "Misti Senato." v. xlv. p. 50.

**139.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out five galleys for the Flanders voyage, three bound to Sluys, and two to London, as in January 1400.

Vicecaptain of the London galleys—Bernardo Justiniano.

[*Latin, 135 lines.*]

April 21. "Misti Senato." v. xlv. p. 71.

**140.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the costs of safeconducts from Richard II. and Henry IV., amounting to the sum of 110 ducats.

[*Latin, 19 lines.*]

April 21. "Misti Senato." v. xlv. p. 71.

**141.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning a fine of 50 livres exacted from the crews of the Flanders galleys for passing the night on shore.

The prohibition not to be enforced at Sluys or in London; and elsewhere the fine to be reduced to three light livres, as on account of its heavy amount it had not hitherto been levied.

[*Latin, 6 lines.*]

1402.

Jan. 19. March 27. "Misti Senato." v. xlv. p. 125.

**142.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out five galleys for the Flanders voyage, three bound to Sluys and two to London. All five of these galleys, accompanied by a sixth, to go in the first place to Aigues Mortes; and the galley destined for that port there to tranship into the other five the goods loaded in Venice for Flanders and London. The masters of the galleys bound to Bruges are forbidden to go to London.

As it is customary in England not to allow goods to be loaded on board the galleys until after payment of the duties for the entire cargo; and as it sometimes occurs that, from default of one or two merchants, the loading of the galleys is delayed: should such case occur, the vicecaptain of the London galleys is to draw a bill of exchange, and pay the English duties required of such merchants for their goods, which shall be held accountable, and not be consigned to their owners until after repayment.

The term for the shipment of spices by aliens at Venice on board

1402.

the galleys bound to Sluys, London, and Aigues Mortes, to be prolonged, they having made their purchases in the hope of exporting them, and the galleys being overloaded with heavy goods contrary to the intention of the town.

[*Latin*, 380 *lines.*]

March 30. "Misti Senato." v. xlvi. p. 12.

**143.** APPOINTMENT by the SENATE of Donato Arimondo to be vice-captain of the London galleys.

[*Latin*, 4 *lines.*]

Aug. 3. "Misti Senato." v. xlvi. p. 35.

**144.** DECREE of the SENATE.

That leave be conceded to "Ser" Lorenzo Contarini, captain of the Flanders galleys, whilst at Sandwich, to visit [the shrine of] St. Thomas of Canterbury, in fulfilment of his vow, appointing as his lieutenant the master of the galley on which he is. He is to go and return in one day, not being allowed to sleep out of the galley.

[*Latin*, 4 *lines.*]

1403.

May 30. "Misti Senato." v. xlvi. p. 86.

**145.** DECREE proposed in the SENATE and negatived.

As for the present year no masters have been found to undertake the Flanders and London voyage, and as the consequent suspense is very prejudicial both to Venetian merchants, and to aliens who know not what to do about buying or selling: therefore, under penalty of 1,000 ducats, no one shall make any motion concerning a similar voyage before next Christmas.

Ayes, 43. Noes, 57. Neutrals, 10.

[*Latin*, 11 *lines.*]

1404.

March 24. "Misti Senato." v. xlvi. p. 129.

**146.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage; two bound to Flanders and Sluys, and two to London.

[*Latin*, 76 *lines.*]

Aug. 9. "Misti Senato." v. xlvi. p. 147.

**147.** REPLY of the SENATE to a LETTER from the Captain of the Flanders galleys, dated Sluys, July 12, 1404, announcing his safe arrival there, as likewise that of the galleys in London. He is of opinion, that if on the homeward voyage he should go towards Sandwich, it would be perilous to the galleys, the merchants, and the merchandise, by reason of the very powerful English armada frequenting those waters.

The Senate expresses its conviction of the wisdom of the precaution taken by the said captain, Fantino Michiel, in demanding royal letters of safeconduct from Henry IV., and that his intent will be obtained; but leaves him at liberty to go or not to go to Sandwich and other English ports.

[*Latin*, 23 *lines.*]

1406.

Feb. 11. "Misti Senato." v. xlvii. p. 31.

**148.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage; two bound to Flanders and Sluys, and two to London as in 1404; transhipment of goods at Caput Doble or Portus Camera.

[*Latin*, 123 *lines.*]

1406.
April 1. "Misti Senato." v. xlvii. p. 32.

**149.** MOTION made in the SENATE and negatived,—That the captain for the Flanders voyage be permitted to trade solely in England.

Noes, 23. Neutrals, 2.

[*Latin*, 6 *lines*.]

April 18. "Misti Senato." v. xlvii. p. 37.

**150.** DECREE of the SENATE for an outlay of 50 golden ducats, to be expended in things for presentation to the King of England. This sum with the 60 ducats for a present for Dino de Rapundis to be paid by average on the merchandise of the Flanders galleys.

[*Latin*, 3 *lines*.]

April 19. "Misti Senato." v. xlvii. p. 37.

**151.** DECREE of the SENAET concerning the two galleys bound to London, which are not to remain there beyond the appointed period, so that they may be in waiting for the captain on the homeward voyage from Flanders. The vicecaptain and master of the two London galleys to be fined 500 ducats each, should they fail to quit London at the term assigned them.

[*Latin*, 10 *lines*.]

July 27. "Misti Senato." v. xlvii. p. 61.

**152.** REPLY of the SENATE to a demand made by the Captain of the Flanders galleys who had arrived at Sluys after a stormy voyage. Permission is granted him to remain at Sluys during the whole of August, and to give notice accordingly to the two masters of the London galleys to quit London on 1st September for Sandwich, that he may not be delayed there awaiting them, as was the case on the last voyage.

[*Latin*, 14 *lines*.]

1407.
Jan. 11. "Misti Senato." v. xlvii. p. 86.

**153.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage.

The captain, with those bound for London, to remain there 50 days.

Prohibition against the shipment of merchandise on board any Venetian coggo at Venice for Flanders or London, under penalty of 1,000 golden ducats, until two months after the departure of the Flanders galleys.

Should the two galleys at Sluys or Middleburg after a lapse of 30 days find freight but for one galley, the captain, masters, and merchants to be then at liberty to send the other to England, but not unless the majority approve of this, and know that the said galley can go alone in safety to Sandwich.

[*Latin*, 128 *lines*.]

Jan. 29. "Misti Senato." v. xlvii. p. 91.

**154.** DECREE of the SENATE.

As two ambassadors from the King of England, on their way to the Pope (Gregory XII.,) have presented themselves to the Signory,—Put to the ballot, that the Pope be written to, beseeching him to give them a good reception.

[*Latin*, 13 *lines*.]

1407.
March 13.
"Misti Senato." v. xlvii. p. 100.

**155.** DECREE of the SENATE.

The King of England is most friendly towards the Signory is evident by the honours which he confers daily on its merchants, and by his absolving Venetians from the general tax laid on every class in his kingdom.—Put to the ballot, that the College do purchase such things as shall seem fit to be sent as presents to that King and to the Queen (Jeanne, widow of John 4th Duke of Brittany), to the amount of 200 golden ducats, to be raised by a bill of exchange on London on the best terms possible, to go to the account of average on goods conveyed by these galleys out and home; namely, one half going, and the other half returning.

[*Latin*, 12 *lines*.]

April 10.
"Misti Senato." v. xlvii. p. 108.

**156.** DECREE of the SENATE.

The delay of the Flanders galleys on their homeward voyage proceeds from the tardy departure of the London galleys; for although the Flanders galleys quit Sluys at the appointed time, and come to Sandwich as arranged, yet they are kept waiting there so long for the London galleys that they often lose fair weather, and remain as many days in those waters as would suffice for their voyage to Sicily. Be it ordained, that the galleys quit London at the appointed time, under penalty of 500 ducats to be paid by the vicecaptain, and 300 by the other master, and come to Sandwich within eight days after the arrival there of the Flanders galleys; but from that eighth day forth none of the galleys, whether from Flanders or London, to load any goods, under penalty of 500 ducats, to be paid by the captain and each of the masters. If the London galleys arrive within the term of eight days, all the galleys may load any goods brought by galleys or boats and other vessels within the eight days. The vicecaptain of London, after the expiration of the period assigned for his stay there, not to concede any permit for loading.

[*Latin*, 27 *lines*.]

April 10.
"Misti Senato." v. xlvii. p. 108.

**157.** APPOINTMENT by the SENATE of Cristoforo Soranzo to be vicecaptain of the London galleys.

[*Latin*, 4 *lines*.]

1408.
Feb. 3.
"Misti Senato." v. xlvii. p. 163.

**158.** MOTION of the SENATE.

Five galleys to be fitted out for the Flanders and London voyage, three bound to London and two to Sluys; the former to remain 50 days in the port of London, those of arrival and departure not included.

As the oarsmen of the galleys when in London and Bruges pledge themselves in the taverns beyond the amount of pay received by them in those ports, so that the masters are compelled to go round the taverns and redeem the men at very great trouble and expense,—it is ordered, that all who shall be pledged in taverns to the amount of four ducats each above the pay received by them shall be redeemed by the masters, the money paid on their behalf to be placed to their debit. If any men shall pledge themselves beyond

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the sum of four ducats, the money is to be paid on their behalf, and placed to their debit; and in addition, a fine of 50 per cent. levied on each man, on the sum exceeding four ducats,—the penalty to be shared like the penalty imposed on bankrupts. The masters may not rate these loans higher than they do the pay given by them to the crews.

No coggo may fit out for the Flanders voyage, or load any merchandise for Flanders and London, until two months after the departure of the said galleys from Venice, under penalty of 1,000 golden ducats to be levied on the goods of the owners of any ship acting contrariwise.

The captain to go to Sluys on board one of the two galleys bound to that port. Should the two galleys not suffice for the stowage of all the merchandise destined for Bruges one of the three bound for London shall accompany them with the superabundant freight to Sluys; that galley being prohibited from entering the stockade, but is instantly to unload outside it, and go to London. The captain, however, is at liberty to take the said third galley with him to Sluys or not, according to the superabundant freight of the two galleys, as possibly the London galley may have much more freight for that port than for Sluys.

Amendment to the foregoing motion, limiting the number of the galleys to four, two bound to London and two bound to Sluys.

Ayes, 81.

[*Latin, 249 lines.*]

Feb. 9. "Misti Senato." v. xlvii. p. 166.

**159.** DECREE of the SENATE authorizing the expenditure of 200 golden ducats for presents to the King of England and the Duke of Burgundy, to be paid by average on goods conveyed by the Flanders galleys.

[*Latin, 6 lines.*]

April 9. "Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 3.

**160.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the bankruptcy of Antonio de Ponte, master of one of the galleys bound to London. For the safety of the goods, Lorenzo Minio is appointed supervisor on board the galley; with regulations about freight, and exempting De Ponte from all writs, until after the departure of the galleys.

[*Latin, 38 lines.*]

July 22. Grand Council, "Leona." p. 172.

**161.** DECREE of the GRAND COUNCIL.

As the captain of the Flanders galleys and the merchants write that "Ser" Antonio de Ponte, master of one of the galleys bound to London, took it first to Sluys, to land the goods destined for Bruges, and that the "presidents" or customers of Sluys caused all the London goods in De Ponte's galley to be unloaded, and sent to Bruges for inspection and valuation, they being subsequently brought back to Sluys and reloaded. In consequence of this delay the merchants will suffer loss, since 50 days was the term assigned for their stay in London, and they will now have but 38. Determined that the term of the London galleys shall commence on the arrival in London of the galley of Cà da Ponte, pro-

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vided the term do not exceed by more than 12 days the period assigned to the London galleys.

[*Latin*, 18 *lines.*].

July 24. "Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 25.

**162.** DECREE of the SENATE ordering the State Proveditors to engage a courier for the conveyance of letters for the prolongation of the safeconducts lately made out for the Flanders and London galleys; the expenses to be defrayed by an average on merchandise making that voyage.

[*Latin*, 3 *lines.*]

Aug. 5. "Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 27.

**163.** DECREE of the SENATE repealing for once the prohibition against the conveyance of pilgrims on board the traffic galleys, and ordering that one of the Baruth galleys be permitted to take on board and convey to Joppa on his way to the Holy Sepulchre the English nobleman [Richard de Beauchamp, fifth Earl of Warwick], the kinsman of the King, with his retinue; that no merchant be received on board the galley, either on the outward or homeward voyage; and that there be assigned for the nobleman's accommodation the stern cabin (*scandolarium pupis*) and cookroom (*barcha*) and the sailing-master's armoury (*amarolus comiti*). After its arrival at Jaffa, the galley to go to Acre for safety, and then return to Jaffa to receive the nobleman and his retinue; and not to remain beyond ten days from the time of landing the said personages at Jaffa, and reembarking them there. The cabins (*statia*) assigned to the nobleman and his retinue not to be encumbered. The College to stipulate with the master concerning the freight and expenses.

[*Latin*, 12 *lines.*]

Nov. 27. "Secreta Senato Deliberazioni." v. iii. p. 125.

**164.** DECREE of the SENATE.

By reason of the difficulties which have arisen in London with regard to a considerable sum disbursed on account of merchandise found on board Venetian galleys, contrary to the customs and regulations of the city of London,—Put to the ballot, that considering no nobleman could go safely or with speed, some eminent "religious" be dispatched to present himself to the King of England. All costs to be defrayed by the merchandise going and returning this year by the Flanders and London galleys, including the goods loaded or unloaded by them at the [intermediate] scales. Every hundred ducats' worth of merchandise to pay three gross on the outward voyage; and should this sum not suffice, goods on the homeward voyage to pay the like duty.

[*Latin*, 19 *lines.*]

Nov. 29. "Secreta Senato Deliberazioni." v. iii. p. 126.

**165.** COMMISSION from DOGE MICHAEL STENO, accrediting the Reverend "Magister" Jerome, of the order of Hermits, S. T. P., an envoy to King Henry IV.

He is in the first place to go to Bruges, and thence to London, there to exhibit his commission and deliver a copy of it to the Venetian consul; then to appear in the presence of the King, and to set forth that —being informed by the captain and master of the Venetian galleys

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and the said consul that the merchants had been compelled to ransom themselves and their galleys from the customers of the city of London, first for 500 marks, then for 1,000*l.* sterling, and to pay other sums of money—the Doge, therefore, appeals to his Majesty, regretting the customs should have been defrauded, and declaring that Venetian subjects are charged to pay in full what is due.

The customers of London seized and forfeited certain Venetian merchandise which had not paid the duties, and also forfeited the galleys, the men, and the goods belonging to merchants who had not transgressed. The King by act of grace released the galleys, men, and merchandise which had paid duty, but ordered the total forfeiture of the goods which had not paid, and a fine of 500 marks to be levied for the offence. Believes this decree to have proceeded from invidious information, and requests the restitution of the forfeitures or their worth, with the 500 marks, on payment being made in full of what is due for the customs.

Moreover, the customers of London proceeded to a second act, more harsh, and not usually enforced against any nation. Certain bales which had been packed, sealed, and noted regularly for the payment of duties, were opened; and the merchants were compelled to present to the customs a fresh note of the quantity and value of the cloths and things contained in the bales which had already paid duty. Thereupon the merchants put a higher value on the bales than at first; but the customers still demanded more, and, alleging the customs had been deceived about these bales, declared the men, galleys, and merchandise to be forfeited. The captain, on hearing of this unjust act, went with the masters to the royal residence to complain; but the captain could not obtain audience: though he was told that, if he wished the galleys not to unload completely and to avoid the forfeit of everything, they must give 3,000*l.* sterling, besides the other forfeitures and the 500 marks; and that, if he would own to having erred and throw himself on the King's mercy, his Majesty would grant him pardon. Then the captain and the masters, under compulsion, admitted that they had erred; and it was announced to them that the King granted them to pay 1,000*l.* instead of 3,000*l.* sterling, besides the 500 marks, and that they must bear the loss of the goods forfeited for the nonpayment of the customs. The Doge beseeches restitution, and has prepared letters of credence for Jerome to the Archbishop of Canterbury,* the Lord the Turcopolier,† and the King's mother-in-law.‡

[*Latin*, 3 *pages.*]

Nov. 29. **166.** FURTHER COMMISSION to MAGISTER JEROMÉ.

"Secreta Senato, Deliberazioni." v. iii. p. 127.

Money being due from the late Duke of Norfolk to the noblemen "Ser" Antonio Bembo, knight, and Giovanni Zane—as evidenced by a public instrument, and by the will and testament of the Duke,

* Thomas Arundel. This prelate was impeached and banished the kingdom in the reign of Richard II., but returned with Henry IV.

† The Knight of Rhodes, Sir Peter Holt. (Mss. penes me.)

‡ Joan Fitz Alan, widow of Humphry de Bohun, and the mother of Henry IV.'s first wife, who died in 1394. (*See* Burke, and L'Art de Vérifier les Dates.)

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who thereby desired that the debt should be paid—Magister Jerome is to endeavour that in this matter the King of England do ordain that full satisfaction be made by the heirs of the Duke. Any of the money paid to be included in the estimate of expenses of the mission of Magister Jerome, who is sent on account of the losses incurred in England.

[*Latin*, 14 *lines.*]

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Jan. 17. "Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 50.

**167.** DECREE of the SENATE.

1,476 golden ducats is due to the bankrupt Antonio de Ponte, for freight on the homeward voyage of the London galley, of which he was the master. Assignment of the sum to the creditors, Giovanni Savino, and Antonio and Paulo de Podio. Deductions for arrears due to the crew, auction charges, galley freights, damaged goods, missing merchandise, and bills of exchange, remitted to the vice-captain.

Ayes, 71. Noes, 1. Neutrals, 1.

[*Latin*, 14 *lines.*]

March 29. "Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 67.

**168.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out five galleys for the Flanders and London voyage. General regulations as in 1408.

The "admiral" of the galleys for the present voyage to receive 80 ducats salary, and to be at liberty to take freight free four butts of wine for Bruges or London, at his option; and on the homeward voyage he may take three thousand weight, light weight, either for Venice or other places without any freight charges.

Should an ambassador be sent to London, he, with two attendants, is to be conveyed on board the galleys, the masters being bound to diet them on the voyage out and home. The ambassador to have a salary of 200 ducats for the whole voyage; one hundred to be paid by the masters at the cost of the galleys, and the other hundred by the commonwealth. The ambassador, when not with the captain but in London, to be vicecaptain of the London galleys, during his stay there, with such forms and privileges as usually conceded to the vicecaptain, or with such commission as shall be given to him, with liberty to order the payment of the galley crews like the captain. At Caput Doble the captain to consign to the ambassador the bills of exchange made out here to his order; the ambassador to be at liberty to trade himself and through his factors. Should he not be sent, one of the masters is to exercise the office of vicecaptain.

As on the last voyage great loss was incurred in London owing to the failure of certain individuals to pay the customs' duties, should any persons fail to pay the duties, and thus occasion loss to other merchants, their goods shall be held responsible.

[*Latin*, 190 *lines.*]

April 1. "Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 70.

**169.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning Custom-house regulations in England injurious to the Venetian galleys.

The consul in London, writing in conformity with the letters of

1409.

Magister Jerome, ambassador from the State to England, states that the King's Council answered that henceforth punishment was to be inflicted solely on such as act contrary to the customs' regulations of England, and not on such as trade fairly and lawfully, but that this must be done by the Parliament of England, which had enacted the orders and statutes; and, as it was possible that Parliament would be held before the arrival of the galleys, it was necessary for the consul and merchants to dispatch the business, which could not be effected without expenditure for jurisconsults and advocates; and for this expenditure the consul demands permission.—Put to the ballot, that he be commanded, in case the Parliament be held before the arrival of the galleys in England, to solicit the grant of what was enjoined Magister Jerome, and of even better terms, with liberty to incur the necessary expenses, which are to be defrayed by the quota assignable this year in London for other necessary expenditure.

[*Latin*, 20 *lines*.]

April 19. "Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 71.

**170.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the appointment of an ambassador to England.

The consul and merchants in London recommending the mission of an individual as vicecaptain of the London galleys after their separation from the captain,—Put to the ballot, that an ambassador be elected vicecaptain of the galleys bound to London, with a salary of 400 ducats. Of this salary the masters to pay 100 ducats on account of the galleys, and to board him and two attendants during the passage out and home; 100 ducats to be paid by the commonwealth; and the remaining 200 ducats to be paid by an average. The ambassador is forbidden to trade in London.

[*Latin*, 17 *lines*.]

April 30. "Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 75.

**171.** DECREE of the SENATE, ordering any extraordinary expenses required for the Flanders galleys and merchandise this year at Bruges to be defrayed by an average on all goods conveyed to and from Bruges and London.

[*Latin*, 5 *lines*.]

April 30. "Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 74.

**172.** COMMISSION to the nobleman "Ser" ANTONIO BEMBO, knight.

To go as ambassador and vicecaptain of the London galleys to the King of England, and solicit him to concede the demands made by Magister Jerome. To confer with our viceconsul and the local council, and determine on the means to be employed in demanding the grant of what is requisite. If the demands must be decided in the general Parliament, which, according to report, meets about the middle of September, and the local council should determine for his remaining, he may stay one month after the departure of the galleys.

As indemnity for the damage done might be obtained if the dispute with Richard Style were adjusted, Bembo is to come to terms with him. The sum expended to be reimbursed by an average; the amount not to exceed 300 ducats.

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To seek satisfaction for moneys due in England to "Ser" Giovanni Zane, according to the note which he will give.

To obtain a mandate that, if any Venetian subject obtain goods on credit from any English subjects and do not make repayment, others shall not be molested.

Not to attend to his own affairs until the business of the state is concluded, and then only remain eight days beyond the term limited to transact his own affairs.

The presents for the King and certain English lords to be presented on his arrival in London.

[*Latin*, 115 *lines. Printed by Romanin, "Storia Documentata di Venezia," vol. iii.*]

April 30. **173.** DECREE of the SENATE.

"Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 75. Any extraordinary expenditure for the galleys at Bruges to be defrayed by an average.

[*Latin*, 5 *lines.*]

July 16. Montereale Manuscript. pp. 86–89. **174.** RICHARD DEREHAM, Chancellor of CAMBRIDGE, envoy for the two leading Cardinals of the Council of Pisa—Antonio Gaetani, Grand Penitentiary and Patriarch of Aquileia, and Francesco degli Aguzzoni, Cardinal of Bordeau—gives them account of his mission to Henry IV.

Arrived in England on the 8th of July, and on the 11th delivered their letters to the King. He made answer that he will assist their College, even to the shedding of his blood; nay, for the reintegration of the Church, and to extirpate the schism now imminent, he would fain be brayed to atoms. He therefore promises to write to all the Kings his friends to assist them; and declares that for the future no one in in his realms shall be subjected to privation of benefices for adhering to them. He likewise had it proclaimed that no money should be taken out of England to the prejudice of their college; and sent orders to the collector of Peter's pence that all the money received by him should be faithfully preserved for the treasury of some future pontiff. Found the Archbishop of Canterbury [Thomas Arundel, Lord Chancellor], well disposed. He has caused all the clergy of his diocese, with the authorities of the universities, to be convoked for discussion as to the union in St. Paul's Church, London, on the 23rd July, in which convocation it is hoped neutrality will be concluded.

The Germans assured Dereham they entirely confirmed the English decision, but a report is in circulation that three Cardinals have deserted the College.

[*Latin*, 33 *lines. Signed and addressed.*]

Oct. 9. **175.** DECREE of the SENATE.

"Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 112. "Ser" Antonio Bembo, ambassador to the King of England, has written the King's reply that without the Parliament, which is to be held next Christmas, he could not settle the matters represented to him. Put to the ballot that, in case Bembo has not yet quitted England, he do remain there until the next Epiphany.

[*Latin*, 19 *lines.*]

1409.
Dec. 9. **176.** DECREE of the SENATE, ordering Friar Jerome, of the order
"Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 118. of Hermits, to be ambassador to the Duke of Burgundy, to procure the usual safeconducts for the Flanders and London galleys.

[*Latin*, 10 *lines.*]

1410.
Feb. 25. **177.** DECREE of the SENATE, extending the term assigned for
"Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 128. the departure of the coggo bound to Flanders and London.

[*Latin*, 7 *lines.*]

Feb. 27. **178.** MOTION made in the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for
"Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 129. the Flanders and London voyage.

The two galleys bound for London to remain there 50 days.

Amendment.—That three galleys be destined for the Flanders and London voyage, viz., two new ones and one of the old ones—the best. Two to go to Flanders, and the third to London; but one of the two which shall go to Flanders, after touching at Sluys, to go to London and load there. These galleys to be awarded by auction to the highest bidders.

[*Latin*, 260 *lines.*]

March 30. **179.** APPOINTMENT by the SENATE of Cristoforo Soranzo to
"Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 132. be vicecaptain of the London galley.

[*Latin*, 2 *lines.*]

April 3. **180.** DECREE of the SENATE.
"Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 137. Two hundred golden ducats to be expended in such things as shall seem fit to the College, for presentation to the King of England, the Duke of Burgundy, and others. This sum to be levied by the extraordinary officials on goods going and returning with the Flanders galleys, namely, 100 ducats on the outward voyage and 100 on the return.

[*Latin*, 7 *lines.*]

April 7. **181.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the observance by
"Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 135. Venetian subjects of Customhouse regulations in London.

As in London the merchants often do not "clear" their merchandise and goods from the customs there, and the galleys on this account are compelled to remain there beyond the term assigned them,—Put to the ballot, that all persons loading merchandise or goods of any description or quality soever must clear their goods from the customs within two days after the completion of the cargoes. If, on the expiration of these two days, the merchandise be not "cleared" the vicecaptain and viceconsul there to raise by bill of exchange the sum required for paying the customs on the goods, which are to be attached as security; the money to be subsequently refunded at Venice. Should the merchants not pay the bill of exchange their goods to be sold.

[*Latin*, 18 *lines.*]

1410.
April 10. **182.** DECREE of the SENATE.

"Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 135.

As the State Proveditors, for the expenses of Magister Jerome who was sent to the Duke of Burgundy, disbursed fifty-four pounds gross,*—Put to the ballot that the goods on board the present Flanders and London galleys do pay half a golden gross for every pound gross levied on them in Venice to the State Proveditors. Money thus levied out of Venice must be paid to the viceconsul at Bruges by the captain of the galleys, and by the vicecaptain of the London galleys to the viceconsul in London.

Ayes, 34. Noes, 23. Neutrals, 8.

[*Latin*, 17 *lines*.]

May 14. **183.** DECREE of the SENATE.

"Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 147.

"Ser" Antonio Bembo, knight, has now remained a long while in England, unable to accomplish all that was enjoined him; and by his letters dated the 2d April, he writes that his dispatch hither is not possible, as the Parliament is occupied with other great and arduous affairs.—Put to the ballot, that he be ordered again to present himself to the King, and urge the matter intrusted to him; or, if the King delay to dispatch the business, to return to Venice with full information. Lest by reason of the departure of "Ser" Antonio the business be impeded, all writings to be consigned to "Ser" Andrea de Molino, viceconsul in London.

[*Latin*, 18 *lines*.]

July 24. **184.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning presents from the State to the Nobility of England.

"Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 165.

Put to the ballot, that the viceconsul and vicecaptain of the London galleys may, for the dispatch of the galleys, expend 100 ducats on such personages as shall seem fit to them. They are to raise the money by a bill of exchange on Venice; the expense to go to the account of average on all goods loaded in London.

Ayes, 36. Noes, 20. Neutrals, 3.

[*Latin*, 11 *lines*.]

1411.
Feb. 12. **185.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage; the galleys to be the best in the Arsenal.

"Misti Senato." v. xlviii. p. 200.

General regulations as in former years. Moreover, no coggo or ship may henceforth fit out for the voyage.

[*Latin*, 298 *lines*.]

March 31. **186.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning presents for Flanders and England.

"Misti Senato." v. xlix. p. 19.

300 golden ducats to be expended on presents for the King of England and the Duke of Burgundy, to be raised by the officials extraordinary on merchandise going and returning by the Flanders galleys.

[*Latin*, 6 *lines*.]

* Equal to 648 golden ducats, each "pound gross" being the equivalent of 12 ducats.

1411.

May 25. "Misti Senato." v. xlix. p. 24.

**187.** DECREE of the SENATE exempting the Flanders and London galleys from the costs of an embassy to the King of Sicily, on account of losses inflicted by his subjects on Venetians.

[*Latin*, 16 *lines*.]

Nov. 5. "Misti Senato." v. xlix. p. 63.

**188.** DECREE of the SENATE for the dispatch of a courier to the Venetian consul in Bruges, "Ser" Albano Sagredo, and to his successors, charging them to obtain the usual safeconducts for the Flanders and London galleys, for the longest term possible; the costs to be defrayed by an average.

[*Latin*, 6 *lines*.]

1412.

Feb. 3. "Misti Senato." v. xlix. p. 81.

**189.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage. General regulations as in former years.

The captain to take with him, at the cost of the galleys, as usual, two medical men, the one a physician and the other a surgeon, to be appointed by the captain and masters or the majority of them; the captain to send one of them on board the galleys bound to London. He must likewise have two fifers and two trumpeters.

If, after the departure of the galleys from London there remain for shipment any bales of cloth or sheets of tin, and the merchants send them to Sandwich, the Flanders galleys shall take them, rating first of all the goods of Venetian merchants, then those of aliens.

[*Latin*, 307 *lines*.]

March 18. "Misti Senato." v. xlix. p. 98.

**190.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning presents to be given in Flanders and London, according to the Act passed on the 31st March 1411.

[*Latin*, 5 *lines*.]

April 4. "Misti Senato." v. xlix. p. 102.

**191.** APPOINTMENT by the SENATE of Francesco Justiniano to be vicecaptain of the London galleys.

[*Latin*, 4 *lines*.]

April 4. "Misti Senato." v. xlix. p. 102.

**192.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Put to the ballot that, when at the present loading of the Flanders galleys, Venetians apply for their shipping "cockets," they shall swear the merchandise is their own property or that of other citizens; the goods of aliens to be entered in the name of aliens.

The captain when in Flanders and the vicecaptains when in London, to administer oaths to Venetian merchants to enter the merchandise in the ledgers of the clerks, under the name and seal of Venetian citizens, or under those of aliens, as the case may be.

Ayes, 69. Noes, 37. Neutrals, 6.

[*Latin*, 16 *lines*.]

1413.

Jan. 24. "Misti Senato." v. xlix. p. 148.

**193.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage. General regulations as in former years.

Prohibition against loading any goods for Flanders or London,

1413.

until two months after the departure of the Flanders galleys, save that the ship "Ziliola," already freighted and half loaded, may continue, till the 31st instant, to take freights and load merchandise with the exception of spices. The two London galleys to remain in port 50 clear days. Should any persons load without paying the usual customs, besides loss of their merchandise, they shall be held responsible for the loss incurred by any merchants or merchandise by their default, and the State Proveditors shall recover against them.

As it has constantly occurred that goods destined for the galleys remain behind, the masters of the Flanders galleys, at the request of the consul in London made within 35 days after the arrival of the galleys, are to reserve room, if possible, for loading such goods at Sandwich. If the masters of the Flanders galleys have reserved room, and the goods be not brought to Sandwich, each merchant shall pay freight for the space reserved.

As on the last voyage there remained on shore at London certain bales and other goods which were placed under the seal of the customers there, the masters shall load them, if on the arrival of the galleys in London they be still there and their owners wish to ship them in the present galleys; but if they be brought to Venice in unarmed ships, they are to give the same exemptions as if brought by the galleys.

Ayes, 62. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 3.

[*Latin*, 398 *lines.*]

Feb. 9. **194.** DECREE of the SENATE.

"Misti Senato." v. xlix. p. 153. As at the auction of the Flanders galleys it was decreed that their masters, at the request made to the captain by the viceconsul in London, should be bound to reserve room for such goods as shall be notified; and as doubts concerning these clauses have arisen there,—Put to the ballot, that the masters of the Bruges galleys are not bound to take wool, because it cannot be stowed in the galleys without great inconvenience and delay.

The viceconsul in London to give precise information to the captain concerning the names, quality, and quantity of the goods, their number and weight, or thousand weight; and the masters of the London galleys when in London to load the wools before other merchandise.

[*Latin*, 16 *lines.*]

Feb. 18. **195.** DECREE of the SENATE.

"Misti Senato." v. xlix. p. 98. To maintain friendship with the Lords of Flanders and of London, the same sum for donatives to be expended as was voted last year.

[*Latin*, 5 *lines.*]

1414.

Feb. 5. **196.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the "Misti Senato." v. l. p. 65. Flanders and London voyage. General regulations as in former years.

[*Latin*, 349 *lines.*]

1414.

March 1. "Misti Senato." v. l. p. 79.

**197.** DECREE of the SENATE announcing the necessity for doing what is possible to relieve the merchants, considering the expenses on merchandise, and authorizing the viceconsul in London and the merchants there to obtain the same patents and franchises from Henry V. as were granted to Antonio Bembo, and to spend 300 ducats for this purpose; the money to be raised by bills of exchange payable in Venice by the state, and to be recovered on the return of the galleys, half by a duty on their cargoes, and half from a similar duty on goods shipped for London on the next voyage.

Ayes, 69.

[*Latin, 12 lines.*]

March 1. "Misti Senato." v. l. p. 79.

**198.** DECREE of the SENATE to send an ambassador to England to renew agreements stipulated by Bembo with Henry IV. and to congratulate [Henry V.] on his accession.

One to be elected by scrutiny in the Senate to go with the present Flanders galleys, receiving a salary of 400 golden ducats for the whole voyage; to have a gown, and to take with him, at the state's expense, four servants, and a secretary with his servant; whilst on board the galleys to be allowed for the expenses of the persons aforesaid one ducat and a half a day, and when on shore two ducats and a half, exclusive of the hire of vessels and of horse grooms. To give an answer within three days after election; and not to trade. His commission to be given by the College.

Cost of the embassy to be defrayed by the merchants for whose advantage it is appointed, to be paid in three years through a tax on goods exported and imported between Venice and London.

The officials extraordinary to obtain from the consul in London an account of how much in the pound they exact annually for goods exported from Venice for that port, that the ambassador may levy duties not paid in Venice. As goods shipped for Bruges may possibly be taken to London, the captain of the galleys for the time to give the consul all necessary information.

Ayes 32.

[*Latin, 32 lines.*]

Proposed amendment to the foregoing resolution.

That the expenses of the embassy be defrayed by goods destined for Bruges as well as for London, and that the ambassador if he choose, may return by land.

Ayes, 19. Noes, 4. Neutrals, 2.

[*Latin, 4 lines.*]

March 27. "Misti Senato." v. l. p. 90.

**199.** DECREE of the SENATE authorizing the purchase of presents for the King of England and Duke of Burgundy as in February 1413.

[*Latin, 5 lines.*]

March 29. "Misti Senato." v. l. p. 89.

**200.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the loading of the Venetian galleys in London.

The period of their stay in London being limited to 50 days, all goods to be shipped by the 46th day, to prevent delay, as the

1414.

customers seize sails and rudders for arrears of duties, and forbid departure at the period appointed.

Ayes, 63. Noes, 7. Neutrals, 3.

[*Latin*, 13 *lines*.]

Sept. 14. "Misti Senato." v. l. p. 154.

**201.** DECREE of the SENATE, authorizing the captain of the Flanders galleys to consult with their masters as to the expediency of shortening the period assigned for the shipment of their cargoes, lest they have to winter abroad. Should the masters decide in the affirmative, the Council of Twelve to assemble at Bruges and settle the question, giving such notice as necessary to the masters of the London galleys.

Ayes, 63. Noes, 3. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin*, 10 *lines*.]

1415.

Jan. 7. "Misti Senato." v. l. p. 186.

**202.** MOTION made in the SENATE and lost, to forbid the loading of any unarmed ship with merchandise for Flanders or London, until one month after the departure of the Flanders galleys.

Ayes, 31. Noes, 41. Neutrals, 7.

[*Latin*, 7 *lines*.]

Jan. 21. "Misti Senato." v. l. p. 190.

**203.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage. General regulations as in 1414.

[*Latin*, 295 *lines*.]

Feb. 9. "Misti Senato." v. l. p. 194.

**204.** APPOINTMENT by the SENATE of Girolamo Marcello to be vicecaptain of the London galleys.

[*Latin*, 3 *lines*.]

Feb. 15. "Misti Senato." v. l. p. 198.

**205.** DECREE of the SENATE authorizing the purchase of presents for the King of England and Duke of Burgundy, as on the 27th March 1414.

[*Latin*, 5 *lines*.]

March 26. "Misti Senato." v. li. p. 12.

**206.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning goods loaded on board one of the London galleys, but destined for Bruges and other places. Instructions for the captain about transhipment.

[*Latin*, 17 *lines*.]

Aug. 19. "Misti Senato." v. li. p. 56.

**207.** The SENATE to the CAPTAIN of the FLANDERS GALLEYS.

Have received his letters of the 18th and 24th ultimo. He and their merchants seem to be apprehensive that the King of England will detain the London galleys on account of his war. Should the galleys be seized by that King, and should the captain be at Sluys on the receipt of these letters, he is, after consulting with fitting persons, to be at liberty to go with the two galleys to England to a place of safety, for the shipment of such goods as can be taken on board. He shall acquaint the viceconsul in London with the spot he determines on, in order that the London merchants may send their goods thither. Afterwards he shall load the galleys with merchandise, shipping first of all the merchandise of Venetian subjects. If he perceive the London galleys seized by the King to

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be on the eve of dismissal, he may wait for them; but if otherwise he may return with the two galleys. If he determine on coming to Venice he must order the vicecaptain of the London galleys, on being dismissed by the King and after loading as much merchandise as possible, to hasten his departure and come to Venice. Should he find himself unable to go to England with safety he has liberty not to go, and to come to Venice or remain in those parts as he thinks best.

[*Latin*, 40 *lines*.]

Aug. 19. **208.** DECREE of the SENATE.

"Misti Senato." v. li. p. 56. That a letter be written to Henry V. relative to the London galleys; and that in case of their detention, a motion be made in the Senate concerning the means to be employed for obtaining indemnity.

[*Latin*, 5 *lines*.]

1416.

Feb. 8. **209.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the

"Misti Senato." v. li. p. 98. Flanders and London voyage. The vicecaptain and the vice-consul at London to be charged to petition the King or the customers that a customs' clerk be appointed for each galley, instead of one for the two, by which means time will be gained. Should the two galleys from Bruges on the homeward voyage have full cargoes, on arriving in the Downs or off Sandwich, they are not to enter that port, as they will have nothing to load, but to proceed to Portus Camera, and there await the other galleys loading in Sandwich. In consequence of the prohibition against the currency of Venetian halfpence in London, it is forbidden to take such halfpence to London by the London galleys. Any one doing so to be punished; and neither the vicecaptain, the masters, nor any other may intercede for such offender. The captain is bound before dismissing the London galleys (off Portus Camera) to proclaim this Act on board them.

[*Latin*, 338 *lines*.]

Proposed amendment to the foregoing decree:—That neither in London nor Sandwich may any foreigner load goods belonging to foreigners or Venetians on board the Venetian galleys until all the goods notified by Venetian factors be shipped; after which the goods of Venetians presented by foreign factors shall be loaded, with the restrictions contained in the Act for the auction of the galleys.

Ayes, 7. Noes, 1. Neutrals, 3.

[*Latin*, 6 *lines*.]

April 10. **210.** DECREE of the SENATE.

"Misti Senato." v. li. p. 120. That certain bales of cloth which remained behind in London on the last voyage be shipped before all other goods on the next return of the galleys; the owners of the goods to make affidavits for the avoidance of any substitution.

[*Latin*, 14 *lines*.]

1417.
Jan. 31. "Misti Senato." v. li. p. 186.

**211.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

[*Latin*, 32 *lines.*]

Feb. 15. "Misti Senato" v. li. p. 189.

**212.** APPOINTMENT of ANDREA BARBARIGO by the Senate to be vicecaptain of the London galleys.

[*Latin*, 2 *lines.*]

April 5. "Misti Senato." v. lii. p. 7.

**213.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Conceding priority of freight to goods left behind in London on the last voyage.

[*Latin*, 14 *lines. As in date April* 10, 1416.]

April 26. "Misti Senato." v. lii. p. 9.

**214.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Understand that the King of England, who is making great preparations and a naval armada against the King of France, has detained three Venetian coggos for the formation of his armada; and as it is also known that the King of France is preparing vessels against the King of England, and has subsidised certain Genoese ships, it may be inferred that Venice will suffer, and loss be incurred by her galleys.—Put to the ballot, that a formal ambassador be elected by scrutiny in this Council.

The person appointed to receive 500 ducats for the first four months, and 30 ducats for each succeeding month, payable by monthly instalments. To take with him three gentlemen, three pages, a secretary and his servant, a marshal, a cook, and a sumpter mule, so that he may have 12 horses, and spend six ducats a day, exclusively of the hire of vessels or of horse grooms. All merchandise and property on board the galleys in England and France, whether for Venice or intermediate ports, to pay one per cent., to be levied by the captain of the galleys in the parts abroad where landed, and consigned to the officials extraordinary in Venice, who will levy here the one per cent. where not exacted by the captain; so that the expenses of the embassy may be raised.

Ambassador appointed,—

"Ser" Fantino Michiel, major.
"Ser" Bortolomeo Nani, major.

[*Latin*, 24 *lines.*]

May 3. "Misti Senato." v. lii. p. 113.

**215.** EMBASSY to ENGLAND.

Decree of the Senate cancelling the mission of an ambassador to France and England, because some of the noblemen appointed had declined the mission, and because it would prove injurious; but proposing the dispatch of a letter to Charles VI., King of France, to the following effect:—

Have heard from Venetian merchants in England that the King has seized three of their coggos for his war with the French King. Regret these hostilities. Wrote to the King of England, whose proffered stipends were refused by the masters of the coggos, requesting him to release them. Being apprehensive that the

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King of England will nevertheless take them, have resolved to declare he does so against their will. Can do nothing to save their citizens from this act of violence.

Ayes, 59–67. Noes, 50–49. Neutrals, 11–3.

[*Latin*, 22 *lines*.]

May 3. "Misti Senato." v. lii. p. 11.

**216.** DECREE of the SENATE.

That a letter be written to the King of England (Henry V.) and transmitted to the Venetian consul in London, who is charged to seek the grant of its demands from the King, and the release of the Venetian coggos.

The letter to the King of England :—

The Venetian citizens Marco Giustinian and Pietro Lando, with other joint owners of three ships, commanded by Giovanni Bono de Ziliolo, Marco Bocheta, and Antonio Hungareno, state that for many months these three ships have been detained by the King. Beseech him to dismiss them with suitable reward. They are not pirates, but established merchantmen, who incur loss if they do not deliver their goods at a stated period; and they had the King's safeconducts.

[*Latin*, 21 *lines*.]

May 3. "Misti Senato." v. lii. p. 11.

**217.** The SENATE to the CONSUL in LONDON.

Are writing to the King of England, and send to the consul a copy of their letter, enjoining him to do his best that their citizens may remain without loss.

[*Latin*, 4 *lines*.]

1418.

Jan. 18. "Misti Senato." v. lii. p. 69.

**218.** DECREE of the SENATE that a Letter be written to Henry V. as follows :—

Lately received his letters requesting a certain quantity of cables and cordage for fitting out the ships he is now building. Are unable to comply, as owing to the peril of war the adjoining provinces, where hemp or cables are collected, have not produced sufficient for their own galleys and ships. Hope therefore to be held excused.

Ayes, 70. Noes, 12. Neutrals, 7.

[*Latin*, 13 *lines*.]

Jan. 27. "Misti Senato." v. lii. p. 73.

**219.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

[*Latin*, 80 *lines*.]

Dec. 23. "Misti Sena to v. lii. p. 138.

**220.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage, in the year 1419. General regulations as usual. The London galleys to be bound to ship first of all such goods of last year's rate as remained behind; but should the merchandise be at Sandwich, sufficient room to be reserved for it. If the masters of the galleys omit thus to do, the goods to remain at their risk.

[*Latin*, 94 *lines*.]

1419.
Jan. 2.

**221.** ALVISE and PANGRATIO CAPELLO.

"Misti Senato." v. lii. p. 139.

Decree of the Senate and Junta addressed to Paulo Malipiero, master of a coggo bound to Bruges and London, that whereas certain Venetian noblemen and citizens had acquainted the Senate with the shipment by them on board his coggo of sundry goods for consignment to their factors at Bruges, Alvise and Pangratio Capello, as may be seen by the ledger of Malipiero's clerk:—in accordance with the demand of the shippers, the Senate and Junta forbid the consignment of the goods to Alvise and Pangratio Capello, and desire Malipiero to make out a new ledger, and to consign part of the goods at Hampton and Sandwich; and all other merchandise shipped by the Capellos, and concerning which Malipiero shall receive no instructions, to be in like manner registered in the new ledger, consigned to the Venetian consul at Bruges and kept at the disposal of their rightful owners.

[*Latin*, 19 *lines*.]

Jan. 2.
"Misti Senato." v. lii. p. 139.

**222.** The SENATE to VENETIAN CONSUL at BRUGES.

Write in accordance with the foregoing decree. The letter for Master Malipiero is to be sent to him by an express.

[*Latin*, 9 *lines*.]

Nov. 16.
"Misti Senato." v. liii. p. 13.

**223.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Desiring Lunardo Contarini, the consul at Bruges, to obtain fresh letters of safeconduct for the Flanders and London galleys, as by the death of the Duke of Burgundy* the former letters had ceased to be valid. The letters to be obtained at as cheap a rate as possible, and the cost to be defrayed by a duty on exports and imports between Venice, Sluys, and Flanders.

[*Latin*, 15 *lines*.]

Nov. 16.
"Misti Senato." v. liii. p. 13.

**224.** DECREES of the SENATE concerning SAFECONDUCTS conceded by HENRY IV. and HENRY V.

As the consul in England renews the safeconduct annually, and it occasionally expires without possibility of renewal, because the King's Council is not sitting or assembles at a distance from London,—Put to the ballot that the consul in London, together with the Council of Twelve, be authorized to spend a small sum for the acquirement of the safeconduct for four years or more, the cost to be defrayed by a quota on merchandise.

[*Italian*, 9 *lines*.]

Ibid.

In consequence of the mission as ambassador to the late King [Henry IV.] of England of "Missier" Antonio Bembo, knight, letters patent for four years were obtained, to the effect that no shipmaster nor other merchant was to suffer for the misconduct of other persons; and that if any person, after paying export duty on goods, left them on shore unshipped, he might load them in any other vessels without

* Jean Sans Peur, assassinated A.D. 1419, September 10, on the bridge of Montereau, in the Dauphiné of France.

1419.

payment of further duty. As the said letters patent have expired, and as the Signory suffered from sending Bembo at such great cost to obtain them, it is put to the ballot, that the consul in London, together with the Council of Twelve, may spend from 20 to 30 ducats, and no more, to obtain the renewal of the said two letters patent.

[*Italian*, 13 *lines*.]

1420.

Jan. 12. "Misti Senato."

**225.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the FLANDERS VOYAGE.

General regulations. Should the Signory send presents or money to the lords in Flanders or London, the masters to take either one or the other freight free. No coggo or ship may be put up for the voyage, or load any merchandise for Flanders or London, till two months after the departure of the galleys.

Amendment to the foregoing motion :—

That, to avoid the dangers of a winter voyage, the galleys be bound to proceed from Sluys to Sandwich at the appointed time, and there await the London galleys, whose masters are to join the captain in like manner at the stipulated period, under penalty to each of 1,000 ducats. Moreover, that within two months from the time when the galleys part company they are to commence their homeward voyage, under penalty to the captain and vice-captain of perpetual ineligibility to the command of the galleys of the state or of traffic galleys: any goods loaded in England after the two days assigned for the departure thence of the galleys to be contraband; and any informer to receive one third of the penalty.

[*Latin*, 118 *lines*.]

Jan. 12. "Misti Senato." v. liii. p. 22.

**226.** APPOINTMENT of "SER" MARCO BARBO by the Senate as vicecaptain of the London galleys.

[*Latin*, 2 *lines*.]

March 12. "Misti Senato." v. liii. p. 33.

**227.** PRESENTS for ENGLAND and FLANDERS.

Decree of the Senate for an outlay of 30*l*. gross, to be expended in presents for consignment by the captain of the Flanders galleys to the lords in Flanders and London, if he deem it expedient to make a present to the Sire de Gistella (*sic*: for Ghistelles in Flanders); but if he deem otherwise, 25*l*. gross to be spent as of yore.

[*Latin*, 4 *lines*.]

1421.

Jan. 11. "Misti Senato." v. liii. p. 97.

**228.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the FLANDERS and LONDON VOYAGE.

General regulations; but, as the London galleys constantly leave goods on shore from want of room, facilities are to be afforded for the shipment by the London merchants of merchandise at Sandwich, on board the galleys homeward bound from Sluys.

[*Latin*, 184 *lines*.]

Jan. 11. "Misti Senato." v. liii. p. 99.

**229.** APPOINTMENT of "SER" PIETRO BALBI by the Senate to be vicecaptain of the London galleys.

[*Latin*, 2 *lines*.]

1421.
Dec. 30. "Misti Senato." v. liii. p. 199.

**230.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the FLANDERS and LONDON VOYAGE.

Regulations as formerly. Pay for one month and half to be given to the oarsmen and sailors in London, at the rate of thirty-eight pence per ducat; and should they require loans beyond that amount, repayment to be made at the rate of thirty pence per ducat. The masters not to be compelled to ship wool at Sandwich; nor may the shipment be effected by windlass, as it causes great inconvenience and delay.

[*Latin*, 230 *lines*.]

1423.
Jan. ? "Misti Senato."

**231.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.*

1424.
Jan. ? "Misti Senato."

**232.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out five galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

1425.
Jan. ? "Misti Senato."

**233.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out five galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

Dec. ? "Misti Senato."

**234.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning cloths, serges, and other goods brought from Bruges and London by land, for shipment on board traffic-galleys.

1426.
Jan. ? "Misti Senato."

**235.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out five galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

Jan. ? "Misti Senato."

**236.** LETTERS from the SENATE to the Captain of the Flanders galleys, and to the Vicecaptain of the London galleys, concerning the plague in England.

1427.
Jan. ? "Misti Senato."

**237.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

Nov. 4. ✾ Miscellaneous Documents in the Archives Library.

**238.** MARCO TARADO.

Notarial attestation by Robert Lockyng, clerk of the diocese of Lincoln, public notary, that on 4th Nov. 1427, at the notary's dwelling in the parish of St. Peter's, Sandwich, Hugh Rys, burgess of Sandwich, consul of the Venetians, Genoese, and Catalonians, and William Rawlyns, clothier of the same town, made affidavit that in January 1420, there arrived in the port of Sandwich Marin de Michiel, with his ship called the "Santa Maria and Sancta Veneranda of Venice." He loaded it with wool and tin, and also with a quantity of grain, for one Marco Tarado, then a mariner on board the ship. Part of this grain was sold to William Gayler, then mayor of Sandwich, and Richard Talker, a London merchant,

* The foregoing notice, and the following details of the Flanders galleys down to the close of 1440, are derived solely from *indexes*. The seven volumes to which they relate seem to have disappeared in 1797. From the mode of compilation of these indexes, the *precise* date of the entries can only be conjectured by calculating or guessing the number of pages required for the events of each year.

1427.

by Tarado, who after receiving the price from Gayler and Talker, and delivering the grain, escaped to foreign parts; nor did Marin alienate any part of the grain, or receive any money for it. Witnessed by Nicolo Joardo and Andrea de Alegro, notary of the merchants of Genoa; its truth being certified by Gayler.*

[*Latin*, 26 *lines, parchment.*]

1428.

Jan. ? "Misti Senato." **239.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

1429.

Jan. ? "Misti Senato." **240.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

May ? "Misti Senato." **241.** DECREE of the SENATE granting permission to the captain of the Flanders galleys, Stefano Contarini, when on the homeward voyage, to go from Sandwich to Canterbury, the shrine of St. Thomas à Becket.

1430.

"Misti Senato." **242.** VARIOUS DECREES of the SENATE postponing the voyage of the Flanders and London galleys.

Oct. 28. "Secreta Senato Deliberazioni." v. xi. p. 143. **243.** The SENATE to "SER" FREDERICO CONTARINI, Captain of the Flanders galleys.

There are reports that a Genoese armada is fitting out; not known for what purpose. He is to keep a good look out on the homeward voyage, both for the Genoese and for certain Catalonian and Biscayan galleys, which are at sea, since the agreement between the Kings of Castile and Catalonia (Arragon), who wish to live at their neighbours' cost. Order him on quitting Flanders and London to keep good guard at all places where he may touch over the galleys and merchandise, and over the crews when they go on shore. This however he is to keep secret.

[*Latin*, 10 *lines.*]

1433.

March ? "Misti Senato." **244.** PROROGATION by the SENATE of the period assigned for the departure of the Flanders and London galleys.

Aug. ? "Misti Senato." **245.** MISSIVES from the SENATE to the captain of the Flanders galleys, and to the vicecaptain of the London galleys, with instructions.

1434.

March ? "Misti Senato." **246.** AUCTION of the Flanders and London galleys.

April ? "Misti Senato." **247.** DECREE of the SENATE ordering the Flanders galleys after unloading at Sluys, to go to Hampton instead of to Sandwich as hitherto.

* The document is indorsed — "*Testificacio domini Marchi Taradi in Sandvihio,*" and bears the notarial mark of R. Lockying. It is the earliest document *written in England* discovered by me in the Venetian Archives.

1434.
Aug. 4. **248.** Doge Francesco Foscari.
Commemoriali, v. xii. p. 139. Takes into his service Sir Walter of England, Knight, with one hundred archers, himself being included in this number, and in which he is to have two spears, they to comprise mounted bowmen; the rest of the archers to be footmen. For the two spears he is to receive the same stipend as the Doge's other men-at-arms, with no additional pay for himself. The foot-archers to have fifteen light livres each. The archers, both mounted and on foot, to have bows and all other necessary and usual weapons. These archers must be from England and Ireland, or from [amongst] other subjects of the King of England, and not from foreign parts. When Sir Walter has engaged them, and had them reviewed in arms, he shall receive two [months'] pay; being bound to effect the engagement and review within 15 days, either in Venice or at Padua, according to the Doge's order.

The Ducal Palace, 4th August, 12th Indiction, 1434.

[*Latin.*]

1435.
Jan.? **249.** Auction of the Flanders and London galleys.
"Misti Senato."

1436.
Jan.? **250.** Auction of the Flanders and London galleys.
"Misti Senato."

1437.
Jan.? **251.** Auction of the Flanders and London galleys.
"Misti Senato."

July? **252.** Missives from the Senate to the vicecaptain of the London
"Misti Senato." galleys, desiring him to provide them with men, and not to load below the watermark, &c. Should he have superabundant cargoes he is not to touch in Sicily.

1438.
April? **253.** Decree of the Senate for payment of freight to the
"Misti Senato." galleys for western* and all English cloths brought to Venice by land after the 1st May next.

May? **254.** Missive from the Senate to the vicecaptain of the London
"Misti Senato." galleys, "Ser" Lorenzo Moro, concerning an average of 240 ducats, for goods which he had been compelled to throw overboard.

May? **255.** Period assigned for the departure of the Flanders and
"Misti Senato." London galleys.

1439.
Jan.? **256.** Decrees of the Senate ordering the masters of the
March. Flanders galleys to open their banks, and assigning the period of
"Misti Senato." departure.

April? **257.** Decree of the Senate granting permission to "Ser"
"Misti Senato." Jacopo Loredano, captain of the Flanders galleys, that, whether at Sandwich or Southampton, he may go on shore daily to hear mass.

* "Panni *loesti*, ac omnes pannine insule Anglie."

1440.
Feb. ? "Misti Senato." **258.** DECREE of the SENATE appointing the auction of the Flanders and London galleys.

March ? "Misti Senato." **259.** DECREES of the SENATE desiring all persons wishing to make motions concerning the voyage to Flanders and England to do so on the 8th inst., and summoning all senators to attend under penalty.

April ? "Misti Senato." **260.** FINAL PERIOD ASSIGNED by the Senate for the departure of the Flanders and London galleys.

Nov. 2. Senato Mar. v. i. p. 6. **261.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Letters to be written to the consuls in London and Bruges, desiring them, for the safety of Venetian ships in those parts, to give orders for hastening the shipment of their cargoes; but the vessels are not to depart without further orders from the State.

[*Latin*, 3 *lines*.]

Nov. 22. Register. Senato Mar. v. i. p. 6. **262.** DECREE of the SENATE.

As the factories of Bruges and London are debtors for considerable sums, it is put to the ballot, that, under penalty of ten livres, all persons entitled to make motions in the Senate do, at its first meeting or at its second meeting at the latest, move concerning the affairs of the factories aforesaid.

[*Latin*.]

1441.
Feb. 17. Senato Mar. v. i. p. 16. **263.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys two to go to Bruges or Antwerp, and two to London. Purchasers in Venice of English cloths brought by these galleys to pay, as usual, weight Troy. The masters not to receive any freight money; and, in London, such to be paid to the vicecaptain, who is to keep a ledger and consign it to the state within a fortnight after his return.

Regulations for publication at Poole and Sandwich; and if the majority of the captain and masters think it more desirable for the galleys to go to Hampton than to Sandwich, they can do so. No vessel to load for Flanders and London until two months after their departure; but vessels loading in Candia may proceed to Flanders and England, where vessels are forbidden to load wool or cloths for Venice until two months after the departure of the galleys, unless they leave any surplus cargo. The clerks on board the galleys to keep two ledgers; one to be consigned to the viceconsul in London, for transmission, closed, by land, to the officials extraordinary in Venice, the other to be consigned to the captain of the galleys for delivery to the State Proveditors.

In London, the masters to give six weeks' pay to the crews at the rate of thirty-nine pence per ducat. Should the crews require a further loan it must be made thus—the pay of one month for oarsmen, sailors, and arbalastmen, and the pay of six weeks for pilots; to be deducted from their pay at the rate of thirty-six pence per ducat. Should further loans be required, the masters may concede them at such rate as they please, down to one-third less per ducat than the current exchange. Both wages and loans are to be disbursed by the viceconsul in London.

1441.

The galleys to remain in London 90 days; at Sandwich they may take in goods during five days. Should they load after the periods assigned, all merchandise thus shipped below deck to pay one-fourth extra freight. The viceconsul in London to be bound under oath to enter in a book all the goods loaded in the galleys during the 90 days.

[*Latin*, 218 *lines.*]

Feb. 18. Senato Mar. v. i. p. 19.

**264.** DECREE of the SENATE alluding to a former decree of the year 1438 that purchasers of English cloths brought to Venice by land were to pay a bounty of 30 ducats for every thousand weight Troy, for the benefit of the Flanders galleys annually bound on that voyage. As it has recently become the custom with those who bring such cloths overland to Venice, and with others who purchase them of the carriers, to make a compromise with the masters of the galleys for a much less sum than 30 ducats, and as it is necessary to prevent the iniquity of counterfeiters—it is put to the ballot, that henceforth all cloths from England brought to the German warehouse by land be weighed and sealed as they arrive, before being unpacked, their weight to be registered by the vicelords, who are to exact 30 ducats per thousand weight Troy from the purchasers before they remove them from the warehouse; of which bounty one-third to go to the State and two-thirds to the Flanders galleys. Moreover, the purchasers of such cloths to pay two ducats per thousand weight to the State Proveditors. Should they be brought by way of Rialto, the Proveditors to enforce the same regulations. But as English cloths for dyeing are brought in other packages as if they were not English cloths, be the vicelords or proveditors charged to have them examined; goods counterfeited to be forfeited.

[*Latin*, 23 *lines.*]

May 16. Senato Mar. v. i. p. 37.

**265.** DECREE of the SENATE.

That as the Flanders voyage was originally instituted for the general profit of Venetian citizens, spices and cottons belonging to them be shipped before similar goods belonging to aliens, under penalty of 25 per cent., to be levied on the goods of the aliens; whose charges for freight being the same as those of Venetians, they are bound to pay the same factory quota on goods taken in the galleys to London and Bruges as paid by Venetians; the captain and vicecaptain in those places to exact it before landing the goods.

[*Latin*, 11 *lines.*]

1442.

Feb. 20. Senato Mar. v. i. p. 79.

**266.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage, namely, two new ones now building in the arsenal, the galley "Mora," which went to Modon last year, and the galley now on its voyage from Trebizond; two to go to Bruges or Antwerp, and two to London. The two masters appointed to London to have the first choice of the four galleys. The pilots not to take more than four "soldi" for each package addressed to London, and three "soldi" for those bound to Bruges.

[*Latin*, 32 *lines.*]

1443.
March 8. Senato Mar. v. i. p. 155.

**267.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage. General regulations.

[*Latin*, 213 *lines*.]

July 30. Senato Mar. v. i. p. 158.

**268.** APPOINTMENT of HIERONIMO DE MOLINO by the Senate to be vicecaptain of the London galleys.

[*Latin*, 2 *lines*.]

1444.
Feb. 7. Senato Mar. v. i. p. 21.

**269.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders voyage; two to go to London, and the captain with the other to go to Sluys or Antwerp.

On arriving in the Downs, where the Bruges galleys part company with those of London, the spices and other merchandise destined for Bruges, to be put on board the Bruges galley. Should they be more than the galley can take, one of the London galleys to accompany the captain to Sluys, and then go to London, where the galleys are forbidden to load during more than 90 days, under penalty to each master disobeying, of 1,000 golden ducats, ineligibility to the mastership of any galley for 10 years, with forfeiture of the freight of all goods stowed below deck.

The captain not to remain at Sluys more than 60 days under penalty of 1,000 golden ducats; and on departing thence he is to go to Hampton or Sandwich, whence he is to dispatch his chaplain or any other person, remaining there until the arrival of the London galleys, and making inquiries about goods shipped after the 90 days; the informer to receive 100 ducats from the State attorneys.

After the expiration of the 90 days, the galleys may not remain in London more than 15 days for their clearance through the custom-house under penalty to the masters of privation of office for 10 years, and a fine of 500 ducats. Should the delay proceed from non-payment of the customs by the merchants, the master to raise money by bill of exchange on the goods of the defaulters, for acquittal of the duties.

[*Latin*, 35 *lines*.]

May 7. Senato Mar. v. i. p. 210.

**270.** APPOINTMENT of "SER" MARINO CONTARINI, son of "SER" PIETRO, by the Senate to be vicecaptain of the London galleys.

[*Latin*, 1 *line*.]

Dec. 17. Senato Terra. v. i. p. 144.

**271.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the CLOTH TRADE in VENICE.

Cloths of Flanders and England brought by Venetian galleys to Venice are exempted from an export duty of one per cent. levied on other foreign cloths.

And as it has become the fashion to bring from the parts of Flanders and London to Venice incomplete cloths, which are subsequently completed here* in the Venetian manner, and as thereby Venetian cloths are defrauded of their fame—be it decreed,

* Raw cloth not fulled, or untoked and unfulled. See Statutes of the Realm, A. D. 1467, 7 Edward IV., vol. ii. p. 422.

1444.

that, under penalty of confiscation, no incomplete cloths may be brought to Venice.

Moreover, as of late there have been brought from the parts of Flanders and England unshorn cloths—resembling Venetian cloths—which are prepared here and do much damage to our Venetian cloths,—be it carried that henceforth no unshorn cloths may be brought to Venice from any place, under penalty of confiscation, and of a fine of 500 livres for each piece of cloth thus brought.

[*Latin*, 24 *lines*.]

1445.
Jan. 27.
Senato Mar. v. ii. p. 52.

**272.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage. General regulations. The freight of goods both on the outward and homeward voyage to be levied by the officials extraordinary in Venice, and not by the masters. The captain to be at liberty to go either to Hampton or Sandwich.

[*Latin*, 220 *lines*.]

Oct. 19.
Register.
Senato Mar. v. ii. p. 107.

**273.** DECREE of the SENATE. Acknowledged act that of late, owing to maladministration, many abuses have been practised in the London factory, so that it is debtor for 14,000 ducats.

Letter to be written to the viceconsul in London as follows:—

For remedy of these abuses, the Senate orders him to confer with his predecessor, Andrea Cornaro, and all others having funds belonging to the factory, or deposits or other property appertaining thereto. Within one month from the receipt of the mandate payment of one half to be made, the other half in the course of the following month, under penalty of five "solidi" per livre, to be levied by the State Attorneys. As the moneys of the said quotas and the deposits are considered public property, the fines to be levied on all effects whether at Venice or elsewhere, but the sums recovered by the viceconsul to be employed by him first of all for the benefit of the factory's creditors, to the advantage as much as possible of the factory. The viceconsul to exact "those 2,500 ducats more or less assigned him for the King's tallies," which are also to be applied to the extinction of the debt of the factory. Approves of a proposal made by him that, for the extinction of the factory's debt, a duty of 5*d*. per livre should be levied on all Venetian exports and imports in England, stipulating however that foreigners shipping goods for intermediate ports or receiving such thence be exempt from this duty. On the other hand, foreigners exporting goods direct or importing them to pay like Venetian subjects. The consul is desired, if he have in his hands moneys belonging to the factory, or be its debtor, to pay them. The merchants to pay within eight days the last import duty of 5*d*. per pound sterling; and within a fortnight from the day of the mandate exporters to deposit at the consulate 5*d*. per pound on all goods destined by them for exportation. Should the deposits exceed the value of the goods, the surplus to be returned; should it fall short, a penalty of 2*d*. per pound to be exacted.

Moreover, the Signory, wishing to examine the registers and accounts of viceconsuls prior to the year 1432, charges the actual viceconsul to transcribe those accounts with the aid of two intelli-

1445.

gent assistants. These documents to be transmitted to Venice after being collated with the originals in the presence of two Venetian merchants. Finally, the Senate decrees that the State Attorneys be commissioned under oath to enforce the above regulations.

[*Latin*, 49 *lines*.]

Dec. 17. Senato Mar. v. ii. p. 114.

**274.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Concerning a missive dispatched to the Consul in London on 18 Sept. 1445, about a claim for 400*l.* sterling made by Tomaso Contarini on Andrea Cornaro. Order for the Consul to enforce payment from Cornaro, under penalty of five "solidi" per pound sterling if not disbursed before the end of April 1446.

Within 15 days after the receipt of the order "Ser" Andrea Cornaro to give the consul Walsingham's security for payment of the sum, so that the English creditors of the factory may consider themselves secure of that amount. Any loss incurred by this delay to be passed to the account of the factory.

[*Latin*, 14 *lines*.]

1446.

Feb. 17. Senato Mar. v. ii. p. 124.

**275.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

[*Latin*, 222 *lines*.]

March 21. Senato Mar. v. ii. p. 127.

**276.** APPOINTMENT of BERNARDO CAPELLO by the Senate to be vicecaptain of the two London galleys.

[*Latin*, 2 *lines*.]

March 26. Senato Mar. v. ii. p. 137.

**277.** The SENATE to the CONSUL in LONDON.

Acknowledge his letter of 28th February concerning the affairs of the Venetian factory. Express great dissatisfaction at the statement. Enclose letters for those whom it mentioned, with copies for the consul, that he may enforce their execution. Desire him to enforce payment of the "quota" from the merchants, the masters of the galleys, and every other Venetian subject. Anticipating disobedience, request him, on the departure of the galleys, to send a list of the delinquents to the office for Old Accounts, informing them that a corresponding amount will be levied by the officials on their property at Venice.

[*Italian*, 13 *lines*.]

May 2. Senato Mar. v. ii. p. 142.

**278.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning a DEBT of about 8,000 ducats due from the LONDON FACTORY.

For its liquidation, all goods shipped on board the Flanders galleys commanded by "Ser" Triadan Gritti, and other Venetian ships, or which shall be sent by land to England, are subjected in the present year to a duty of 5*d.* sterling per pound sterling, to be deposited with the officials extraordinary as payment of the quota on the merchandise sent by them, according to the Act passed on the 18th October 1445.

Shippers omitting to make their deposits before the departure of the present galleys to pay 7*d.* sterling per pound sterling to the

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Venetian consul in London. Should he be unable to exact the sum he is to send a note to the officials for Old Accounts that they may levy the said 7*d.* with an additional 2*d.* in the pound penalty for their own benefit. This decree to be proclaimed on the steps at Rialto; to take effect on all aliens loading merchandise for England, and to remain in force for the coming year 1447 with regard to the galleys and ships bound thither.

[*Venetian*, 12 *lines.*]

May 2. **279.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. ii. p. 142.

In 1444, when "Ser" Marco Morosini was captain of the Flanders galleys, the cost of "hostlers" in London was dispensed with, at which time permission was obtained at great expense for the sale of goods brought by the said vessels after the term of eight months, to which the permit had until then been limited; and whereas, on account of the "hostlers," the merchants heretofore paid 1*d.* sterling in the pound, and in that year paid nothing at all,—it is put to the ballot, that the clerk in the office of the officials extraordinary who keeps the accounts of the three per cents. do make out a list of all shippers on that voyage, out and home, of their goods, and the value of them; they to pay ½ per cent. on the entire amount, having paid the rest in London, and those who shipped goods on the return to pay ½ per cent. before the departure of the galleys; it being understood that the shippers of wines [for London] in vessels from Candia or Modon are in the same plight. From such as do not pay the officials for Old Accounts shall levy the amount, with a fine of 2*d.* in the pound for their own benefit. All goods to be stowed between the "stacij" and the decks; and the said clerk must inspect the registers of the galleys to see this done.

[*Venetian*, 11 *lines.*]

May 6. **280.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. ii. p. 142.

The College to elect a committee of two or three merchants to examine the accounts of the London factory, having for colleagues the officials of the Accountants' Office.

[*Venetian*, 6 *lines.*]

June 2. **281.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. ii. p. 142.

The viceconsul in London to draw bills of exchange on Venice for all arrears of quotas due from Venetians in London; and to pay what is due from defaulters.

[*Venetian*, 3 *lines.*]

July 21. **282.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar v. ii. p. 167.

Alludes to an Act passed in November 1445 concerning the London factory and payment of 5*d.* in the pound. All defaulters who shall not have paid in full by Wednesday next to be charged 7*d.* in the pound.

[*Latin*, 9 *lines.*]

1446.
July 28. Senato Mar. v. ii, p. 168.

**283.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning former Acts passed for the payment of quotas due to the London factory, and authorizing the officials for Old Accounts to exact fines from defaulters.

[*Latin*, 12 *lines.*]

Aug. 11. Senato Mar. v. ii. p. 171.

**284.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Forbidding Venetian citizens resident in London and Bruges to have recourse to the local courts of judicature for the settlement of disputes amongst themselves; any Venetian suing a fellow countryman in any such court to incur a fine of 500 golden ducats.

[*Latin*, 17 *lines.*]

Dec. 16. Senato Mar. v. ii. p. 183.

**285.** DECREE of the SENATE.

The Act passed on 2d May (concerning the quotas on goods shipped to and from London), has not been observed. Defaulters summoned to pay by the middle of next January, and after that period the officials to exact one fourth additional.

[*Latin*, 10 *lines.*]

1447.
March 6. Senato Mar. v. iii. p. 2.

**286.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders and London voyage. General regulations as in 1444.

[*Latin*, 9½ *pages.*]

June 16. Senato Mar. v. iii. p. 8.

**287.** APPOINTMENT of "SER" ALEXANDER DUODO by the Senate to be vicecaptain of the London galleys.

[*Latin*, 3 *lines.*]

1448.
Feb. 13. Senato Mar. v. iii. p. 41.

**288.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders and London voyage. General regulations as in 1447.

[*Latin*, 75 *lines.*]

1449.
Feb. 15. Senato Mar. v. iii. p. 99.

**289.** DECREE of the SENATE.

The Venetian merchants in London agreed as to the liabilities to be incurred for the factory, and two alone refuse to bind themselves for the factory, namely, Ambrosio Taverna, called "de Mercato Novo," who passes himself off there for a Milanese, and Giovanni de Ponte.

Venetian consul in London to inform the said Ambrosio and Giovanni, that unless they bind themselves for the factory they will no longer be considered Venetians, and incur the penalty of 500 ducats.

[*Latin*, 10 *lines.*]

March 21. Senato Mar. v. iii. p. 107.

**290.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the LONDON FACTORY.

The London factory is debtor, especially to Englishmen, for about 1,000*l.* sterling.

To reform the London voyage, which is so profitable to Venice, deposits to be received of two and three per cent., to be repaid by goods arriving after 1450. The officials for Old Accounts, with two merchants conversant with English affairs to be elected by the

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College, to levy 3,500 ducats, and to remit 3,000 ducats to London to the consul and to the vicecaptain, informing them that this and any additional sum sent hereafter are to be paid to the Englishmen from whom deposits shall have been received, and they must recover jointly the bonds given by the Venetian consuls and merchants. The quotas due from Venetian merchants for the imports of the present Flanders galleys and of the wine ships to be paid to the consul and vicecaptain, that they may liquidate the debt due to Englishmen.

The consul and vicecaptain to be written to about the tallies (*le taie*) for 200*l.* sterling. Three years ago that sum was lent to the King, to be repaid by duties on wools exported by Venetian merchants; the tallies being imposed accordingly. From that time no merchant of Venice has exported wool in his own name, but in that of Englishmen, to benefit himself. It is therefore enacted, that the said merchants do liquidate these tallies, through their wools, by instalments. Should the merchants not export wool the tallies to be transferred to cloth.

Regulations for the repayment of 5,250 ducats lent to the factory by the state.

The London viceconsul to send a note of all the accounts of the factory from 1445 downwards; and all its creditors, both in London and Venice, to prove their debts at the office for Old Accounts before the two merchants appointed by the College.

No loan may be made for the King of England, or any one else, without licence from the Signory. If a request for such be made, time to be taken for writing, and if any consul make such a motion it shall be considered null, and the merchants dispensed from paying anything.

Goods brought on deck, with the exception of those that belong to poor men, of the value of 10 ducats and under, as have not paid their due quota in London to the consul, to pay at the sea custom-house in Venice. These goods to pay 5*d.* per pound sterling; goods carried below deck paying at the same rate.

Ayes, 97. Noes, 1. Neutrals, 9.

[*Latin*, 69 *lines.*]

March 28. Senato Mar. v. iii. p. 108.

**291.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the debt of the London Factory, amending the Act with reference to the mode of raising the loan of 3,500 ducats.

[*Latin*, 12 *lines.*]

April 28. Senato Mar. v. iii. p. 112.

**292.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders and London voyage. General regulations.

It is forbidden to stow cloths or other merchandise on deck.

Masters forbidden to engage men "for the voyage," as they do, in England and Flanders, under penalty of 200 ducats; but to pay the men by the month.

For Flanders and England one [loaded] to go with the captain to Sluys or Antwerp, and thence to Gravesend; not to proceed to London, but send merchandise for that place in one or two lighters. Then it shall go to Hampton or Sandwich, load there, and await the

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captain and the other galleys. The King of England to be written to, and requested not to detain the galleys.

[*Latin*, 165 *lines.*]

Dec. 11. Senato Mar. v. iii. p. 154.

**293.** The SENATE to the VENETIAN CONSUL in LONDON.

Alludes to the orders of 21st March for payment of the English creditors of the factory. If the money remitted to him and other sums, have not been applied to the liquidation of the debts due to English subjects, he will be held accountable. Is surprised at his not having sent the note of the factory's debtors from the year 1445 downwards, as desired. Desires him to state how he employed the remittance of 3,000 ducats, and the amount of the factory's debts, after the payments made to the English creditors. Should he be unable for the moment to transmit the accounts of his predecessors, he is to send those formed during his own tenure of office.

[*Italian*, 17 *lines.*]

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Feb. 14. Senato Mar. v. iii. p. 165.

**294.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage. General regulations as in 1449.

[*Latin*, 165 *lines.*]

July 8. Senato Mar. v. iii. p. 197.

**295.** DECREE of the SENATE. . . .

Enforcing payment of a quota of one-third per cent. on all merchandise received from London by sea in good condition ; the duty being imposed for the payment of certain bills of exchange drawn by the viceconsul in London.

[*Latin*, 9 *lines.*]

Sept. 21. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 5.

**296.** The VENETIAN COLLEGE to the CAPTAIN of the FLANDERS GALLEYS.

Have been informed that the Duke of Burgundy (Philip the Good), after licensing the usual safeconducts and privileges, has made a difficulty about granting them. If the safeconducts be not obtained, the captain to go to London, and dispose of the spices and merchandise.

[*Lines*, 17 *lines.*]

Sept. 23. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 5.

**297.** The VENETIAN COLLEGE to the CONSUL at BRUGES.

By the accompanying letters, give him many orders. Also command him, in the course of conversation with that most illustrious Lord (the Duke of Burgundy), with Madame (Isabella of Portugal, third wife of Duke Philip), and with those [Burghers] of Bruges and Antwerp, to say that though they prefer their galleys going to his ports. in preference to others, yet, as the Duke will not grant the safeconducts, the galleys must dispose of their merchandise elsewhere. The captain is commissioned, if unable to obtain the safeconducts, to proceed with all the galleys to London ; and if when the consul hears of his arrival in England he has not received the safeconducts, he is to transmit the accompanying letters to his address, through two separate chanels. The bearer is Anichino

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of Collogna, who has promised to reach the consul in 15 days from tomorrow. Should he arrive to the time, he is to receive 20 ducats, 10 of which have been already paid. The consul is to pay the rest, and send his reply by Anichino. That he may make a more honourable appearance in the presence of the Duke of Burgundy, he is to take with him two Venetian merchants; the expense incurred to be liquidated by a quota or average on merchandise.

[*Italian*, 16 *lines.*]

Oct. 6. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 10.

**298.** DECREES of the SENATE concerning SAFECONDUCTS and DISTURBANCES in ENGLAND caused by Jack Cade.

As the sum of 600 ducats, authorized to be paid by the consul at at Bruges for safeconducts, is too small, it is now increased to 1,000 ducats, to be disbursed by the officials for Old Accounts, and recovered by them through an average on merchandise shipped in the Bruges galleys. By authority of the Senate, the College ordered the captain, if unable to obtain safeconducts, to take the galleys to London; but as that city and the whole island ofEngland is understood to be in great combustion, the galleys willrun manifest risk. Be the captain therefore written to as follows:

On the 21st of September last, commanded him, in case the consul at Bruges should be unable to obtain the safeconducts, to go with the two Bruges galleys to London. Have subsequently been informed that the disturbances in England continue, and that London is in very great confusion. Command him, if these disturbances last, to steer the London galleys to a place of safety. Leave him at liberty however to take what course seems preferable.

[*Decree in Latin, letter in Italian*, 24 *lines.*]

1451. March 11. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 36.

**299.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

General regulations as formerly; and be a copy of the following clause sent to the viceconsul in London—That on the arrival there of the galley, the Council of Twelve* be assembled, and do elect two of the noble arbalast men of the galley, all six being balloted for.†

After the election, the viceconsul with the [two] arbalast men, to make careful inquiry as to all goods loaded in the galley after the term of 90 days, keeping a regular account of them, a copy of which shall be sent by the consul to the State attorneys under penalty of privation of all governorships for ten years. The arbalast men

* Twelve Venetian merchants who together with the consul formed the presidency of the London factory.

† The first proposal made in the Grand Council for the appointment of young Venetian patricians as arbalast officers on board the merchant galleys dates from 26 February 1357. The motion was then lost; but on the 19th January 1359 the Senate decreed that four noble arbalast men were to be appointed to each galley; we here see that in 1450 there were six on board the London galley. On the 9th July 1458 the Grand Council again legislated for the young patrician bowmen, and by the statute book of Andrea Priuli, captain of the Flanders galleys in 1518, it is seen that they then carried four noble archers whose pay was 70 ducats each. The last patrician arbalast men in the Venetian navy, of whom we hear anything in England, were a Dandolo and two Veniers, on board the Giustiniana and Vergi, captured by the Huguenots of La Rochelle, much to the disparagement of the English flag, January 1570.

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thus elected to be bound on the morrow of their arrival at Venice, to give up the said copy. The clerk of the galley is to enter in its register all the goods loaded after the 90 days, that the State attorneys may know against whom they have to enforce this clause. In default the clerk shall be fined 100 golden ducats, imprisoned for two years, and be ineligible to clerkships on board vessels. Goods loaded after the 90 days, when landed at Venice, to be put under seal in the warehouse, and not removed until the return of the galleys from their next voyage.

When off Hampton, should the third galley not have a rate for Sluys, the captain to dismiss it for Hampton; but should it have a rate for Sluys—the London galley being dismissed in the Downs—the captain is then to proceed to Sluys; and, after unloading the spices and merchandise there, the master of the [third] galley shall depart for Hampton, from which place he is to forward the goods consigned to him for Venetian merchants in London.

[*Latin*, 230 *lines.*]

March 27. Senato Terra. v. ii. p. 178.

**300.** DECREE of the SENATE exempting spices conveyed overland from Venice to England, by way of Treviso, from a duty of 2½ per cent.

[*Latin*, 7 *lines.*]

March 30. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 43.

**301.** DECREE of the SENATE for letters to the captain of the Flanders galleys and to the consuls in Bruges and London, relative to the mode of levying 350 ducats damages paid by the galleys for an outrage attempted in a convent at Lisbon.

[*Latin*, 12 *lines.*]

Dec. 7. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 96.

**302.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the DEBT of the LONDON FACTORY.

As on 21st March, 1449, this Council made regulations for the affair of the London factory, and there are many in London who do not pay their quota, it is put to the ballot, that the customhouse officers do not release the merchandise brought by the Flanders galleys and exported from England without a certificate from the officials for the Old Accounts. Money so levied to be remitted to London in diminution of the factory's debt, to be thus paid by the vicecaptain of the galleys, the consul, and the merchants.

The clause in the decree of 1449 concerning the effects of the galley oarsmen is to remain in force. And as by the said decree it is enacted that an extra one per cent. be paid by goods brought from England for the benefit of the factory, the customhouse officers to be charged to exact this quota, as a good sum remains for payment.

[*Latin*, 23 *lines.*]

Dec. 9. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 96.

**303.** DECREE of the SENATE.

By a letter from Jacopo Barbarigo, captain of the Flanders galleys, he announces the presence of a fleet of men-of-war in the Channel, which would render it perilous for a single galley to go to Hampton, and recommends the Senate to leave it at his option to take the

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galleys to Hampton or to Sandwich together or separately, and to provide for the safety of the galley bound from Sluys to London. Permission given accordingly; but no indemnity to be demanded of the state.

[*Latin*, 13 *lines*]

Dec. 20. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 97.

**304.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the debt of the London factory, and cancelling the regulations enacted on 21st March, 1449, and 7th December, 1451.

In accordance with an Act passed in 1440, securing to the commonwealth its due, it is put to the ballot, that all moneys raised by means of the one per cent. either on deck or below deck be paid to the state under penalty of 1,000 ducats, until repayment of the 5,250 ducats advanced to the London factory.

[*Latin*, 23 *lines*.]

1452. Jan. 20. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 100.

**305.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

[*Latin*, 203 *lines*.]

May 3. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 116.

**306.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Enforcing payment of the duty of one per cent. on merchandise brought from England by the galleys commanded by "Ser" Benetto Victuri, to be consigned to the masters of the arsenal, according to the Act of the 20th December; the arsenal being in great need.

[*Latin*, 13 *lines*.]

Sept. 18. Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 151.

**307.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the daily increase of the debt of the London factory. The customhouse officers are desired not to release the goods expected from England by the Flanders galleys without payment of the quotas, whose amount is to be remitted to the viceconsul in London.

[*Latin*, 23 *lines*.]

Nov. 18. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 161.

**308.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Granting a request made by Jacopo Barbarigo for time to send to London for receipts from the consul there, and guaranteeing the payment made by him of duties on four bales containing 130 pieces of English cloth.

[*Latin*, 12 *lines*.]

1453. Feb. 19. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 170.

**309.** DECREE of the SENATE.

For restitution to "Ser" Benetto Victuri of 89 ducats, that sum having been twice paid on account of the London factory, first in London and then at Venice.

Order for a similar restitution of 20 ducats unduly exacted from "Ser" Arsenio Duodo.

[*Latin*, 10 *lines*.]

March 3. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 173.

**310.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

The captain to dismiss the London galley in the Downs; and

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the master forbidden to remain in London more than 110 days. The captain to go with the other two galleys to Hampton or Sandwich, there to unload the spices destined for London, but not to remain more than eight days, when the two galleys shall go to Sluys or Antwerp.

The master of the Sandwich or Hampton galley to be bound to pay an instalment of wages to the crew within 40 days after the return of the captain; and as the spices shipped for London, but unloaded and consigned at Hampton, must incur costs for conveyance thence to London, it is enacted that gross spice pay three ducats per thousand-weight, and small spice four ducats per thousand-weight.

[*Latin*, 7 *pages.*]

March 5. Senato Mar v. iv. p. 177.

**311.** The SENATE to STEFANO TRIVISANO, CAPTAIN of the FLANDERS GALLEYS.

Are displeased at his long stay in those parts. Command him to remain there no longer, with disadvantage to that voyage and other voyages dependent on it. He is under penalty of 300 golden ducats, in addition to the other penalties enumerated in the auction contract, to depart thence with the galleys for England. On his arrival he shall send his admiral at the cost of the galleys to London, desiring them to depart thence within ten days under penalty of 500 ducats.

[*Italian*, 12 *lines.*]

May 24. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 190.

**312.** The SENATE to the CONSUL in LONDON.

Are informed that when the galleys in those parts were on the eve of departure, certain Venetian merchants detained them under pretence of a law, never enforced, that the exports of the galleys must be equal to their imports. By these means the trade with England is totally ruined, for the personal profit of a few individuals. Charge him to assemble all the Venetian merchants and announce the Senate's displeasure, and their resolve that the galleys shall proceed on their voyage forthwith. No excuse will be accepted under any pretext, they being aware that the offence proceeds from their own subjects. Order him to desire the merchants to complete their shipments within one month from the receipt of this missive; goods loaded subsequently to be considered contraband; nor will agreements between the merchants and the masters contrary to the terms of the auction be acknowledged. Charge the captain to depart within one month under penalty of 500 ducats.

[*Italian*, 21 *lines.*]

June 25. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 196.

**313.** DECREE of the SENATE.

For many years the Flanders galleys have remained a long while on the voyage, chiefly from their being detained in London; and, above all, a good part of the crews remains behind and is ruined. As the captain and masters bound on this voyage hope to remedy these abuses, if not compelled to go beyond Gravesend or Greenwich, it is put to the ballot, that they be left at liberty to go to Gravesend or Greenwich, and forward thence, at the expense

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and risk of the said masters, the goods destined for London; and then they shall go to Sandwich, loading according to the auction contract, and remaining there for the period [originally] assigned for their stay in London.

If the factors to whom spices are addressed desire to have them weighed, it must be done, the masters making good any deficit.

Ayes, 105. Noes, 17. Neutrals, 10.

[*Latin*, 11 *lines.*]

July 4. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 199.

**314.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning PRESENTS for HENRY VI.

As it must not be allowed that the presents usually sent to the King of England remain on shore, nor that the galleys go without them, it is put to the ballot, that a messenger be sent to the master of the English galley, desiring him carefully to keep them on board under penalty of 500 golden ducats, to be levied by the Accountant's Office, which sends the presents. If the galley have no room for them, the master, at the expense of all three galleys, to unload from his store cabins and put on board the other galleys as much merchandise as may enable him to ship them.

[*Latin*, 8 *lines.*]

July 5. Senato Mar. v. iv. p. 199.

**315.** SECOND DECREE of the SENATE concerning PRESENTS for HENRY VI.

Eight butts of wine and certain cases have been ordered for transmission on board the London galley, on account of the presents to be made as usual. If the London galley cannot take the presents without transhipping the spices and sending them with risk in lighters, be the presents shipped ratewise, and, on the arrival of the galley at Sandwich, be the wine and cases sent by lighters to London like the spices.

[*Latin*, 4 *lines.*]

Nov. 2. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 9.

**316.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Enforcing payment of the duty of two per cent. on merchandise passing to and fro between Venice and England.

[*Latin*, 5 *lines.*]

Dec. 4. In the Library of the Venetian Archives. Miscellany, No. 51.

**317.** PROTEST of a BILL of EXCHANGE for 200 ducats.

Drawn at Venice on 4th September 1453 by Antonio d'Alberto of Brescia, at usance, in favour of Felipo Priuli and Andrea Grazianni, on Sebastiano and Girolamo Badovari in London, at the exchange of $44\frac{1}{4}d.$ per ducat.

On 4th December 1453, accompanied by William Styfford, clerk, citizen of London and notary public, and by the witnesses Dardo Justiniano and Donato Raymondo, Venetians, Andrea Grazianni went to the dwelling of Girolamo Badoaro in the parish of St. Martin's Oteswych, London, who, after hearing the bill read, said that Sebastian and he refused payment. Thereupon Grazianni inquired whether Girolamo or any one resident within that house or without would pay the bill, expressing his readiness to receive the sum and give letters of quittance; and nobody answering, he

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protested against the said Sebastian, Girolamo, Antonio, and all others bound; the bill broker Delzemetera certifying to the notary that on that day, in London, the ducat was worth 39¾*d.*

[*Latin, parchment,* 28 *lines. The bill in Italian.*]

1454. March 18. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 26.

**318.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

Spices gross and small loaded for England to pay freight at the rate of one ducat per thousand weight.

[*Latin,* 204 *lines.*]

June 13. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 39.

**319.** DECREE of the SENATE.

As the Flanders galleys remain in those parts beyond the period assigned them,—put to the ballot, that the captain of the Flanders galleys be written to that the Senate is displeased with this delay, and commands him to quit England under penalty of 500 ducats.

Ayes, 118. Noes, 5. Neutrals, 1.

[*Decree in Latin, letter in Italian,* 10 *lines.*]

Oct. 19. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 61.

**320.** DECREE of the SENATE.

As on the last voyage all three of the galleys went to Sluys, for which port all the merchandise was loaded to evade the duty of two per cent. on goods passing between Venice and England,—the captain of the Flanders galleys, "Ser" Marco Zeno, knight, is ordered to make inquiries as to goods of Venetian subjects unloaded in England, and to exact the two per cent.

[*Latin,* 16 *lines.*]

1455.

Jan. 2. In the Library of the Venetian Archives. Miscell. No. 51.

**321.** PROTEST of a BILL of EXCHANGE for 100 ducats.

Drawn at Venice on 2nd October 1454 by Ziliano de' Stagani, of Lonado, at usance, in favour of Lodovico de li Strozi, on Marco Justiniano, son of the late Missier Marino, at the exchange of 45*d.* per ducat.

On 2nd January 1455, accompanied by William Styfford, notary, Giovanni de Bardi and Alessandro Rinuccini, Florentines, Antonio de Lutiano, factor of Lodovico dei Strozi and Co., went to Dardo Justinian, factor of Marco Justinian; Dardo being then in front of Styfford's dwelling in Lombard Sreet, in the parish of St. Nicholas Acon, in London. Lutiano having presented the bill on behalf of Strozi to Dardo, he refused payment on behalf of Marco. Thereupon, Lutiano inquired if Dardo himself or any one else, then in front of Styfford's dwelling, would honour the bill, and nobody answering, the bill was protested; the bill broker Beligardo de Bardi certifying that the ducat was worth 40¾*d.* in London.

[*Latin, parchment,* 21 *lines. The bill in Italian.*]

Feb. 26. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 19.

**322.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

[*Latin,* 239 *lines.*]

1455.
Feb. 28. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 82.

**323.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the Flanders Voyage.

The London galley not to remain in London more than 70 days; and should the captain and masters not quit Flanders, London, and Hampton or Sandwich, at the periods assigned them, they shall pay the penalties lately enacted.

[*Latin*, 11 *lines.*]

Aug. 21. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 109.

**324.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Rendering the masters of the galleys responsible to freighters for deficiencies in butts or pipes of wine shipped for Flanders or England.

[*Latin*, 27 *lines.*]

Nov. 7. Giustizia Nova Register. p. xiv.

**325.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Charging the officials extraordinary to exact the quotas of one and two per cent. due to the London factory from many debtors, who are also debtors to the "Ten Offices" for duties on goods brought by the Flanders galleys on the last voyage out and home, so that the masters of the arsenal cannot obtain the sums due from them.

Down to 8th December 1455 the officials of the "Ten Offices" to levy arrears without any fine; but after that period to exact the fine, under penalty to themselves of 200 golden ducats.

[*Italian*, 14 *lines.*]

1456.
Jan. 26. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 128.

**326.** The SENATE to the CAPTAIN of the FLANDERS GALLEYS.

Heard from him of his arrival in England. Order him to pay the crews and facilitate his departure from Flanders and England.

Similar letter to the vicecaptain and masters of the London galley.

[*Italian*, 16 *lines.*]

Feb. 23. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 132.

**327.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Reciting an Act passed in 1449, imposing a duty of two per cent. on all goods imported to England or exported thence until the extinction of a debt of 5,250 ducats due from the London factory to the State.

Order for the clerk of the officials extraordinary, Marco Venier, to make out a balance sheet of the sums levied on this account.

[*Latin*, 18 *lines.*]

March 6. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 134.

**328.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

Prohibition against shipping, for intermediate ports between Flanders and Venice, cloths of the following denominations:—Loesti (? western or Lowestoft) cloths, bastard cloths, Santon and Consualdi (? Cotswold) cloths, white Guilford cloths, wools, block tin, and madder.

[*Latin*, 272 *lines.*]

1456.
April 26.
Senato Mar. v. v. p. 144.

**329.** DOGE FRANCESCO FOSCARI to the CAPTAIN of the FLANDERS GALLEYS.

Learns, by two of his letters from England, his exertions to expedite his departure thence and his order to "Ser" Luca Griti, vice-captain in London, to join him. Has determined to write to Griti, as the captain will perceive by the enclosed copy. Commands him to send the letters to Griti. The captain must depart at the period assigned by the auction [contract].

[*Italian*, 8 *lines.*]

April 26.
Senato Mar. v. v. p. 144.

**330.** DOGE FRANCESCO FOSCARI to "SER" LUCA GRITI, VICE-CAPTAIN of the LONDON GALLEYS.

Charged him to quit London with or without a cargo and join the captain. The captain, however, has stated that, notwithstanding the command he gave him through the admiral and by his own letters, the vicecaptain has not quitted London and does not intend to do so till next Ascensiontide. Is much surprised at this conduct, and commands him to join his captain on the receipt of this present.

[*Italian*, 14 *lines.*]

June 14.
Senato Mar. v. v. p. 153.

**331.** DECREE of the SENATE.

As by reason of the extraordinary insult perpetrated by the citizens of London on Italian merchants, provision must be made to free the London factory so that Venetian merchants may depart or remain, without any ties on the part of the factory,—it is put to the ballot, that for release of the factory a deposit of 8,000 ducats be made at the office of the officials extraordinary. Persons making such deposits during the present month to be credited for the amount and for one half in addition, being allowed to deduct their credits in two or three per cents., and in customs for merchandise due since last September. These deposits to be noted in a separate book. The officials not to raise more than 8,000 ducats, nor receive deposits after this month under penalty of 1,000 ducats. Moneys thus raised to be remitted to the consul in London with the approval of two merchants, conversant with the western regions, to be elected by the College, with orders for him to acquit all the debts of the factory.

Prohibition against raising quotas in England for factory: instead of which six per cent. duty to be levied in Venice on goods brought from England by galleys or ships; half this duty to be taken off on liquidation of the deposits now made. Goods exported from England for intermediate ports, and goods conveyed to England to be liable to the duty. Merchandise brought to Venice on the return to pay three per cent. additional. The consul in London forbidden to exempt any one from these payments.

Henceforth, all expenses required for the factory to be defrayed thus:—The merchants, masters of the ships, and all others to contribute in proportion to the value of their goods, to be notified by them to the consul or viceconsul, under oath, and according to the customs' tariff in those parts. If money be needed instantly, the

1456.

merchants shall be bound to pay it on demand from the consul; and for repayment, the costs shall be divided equally. If any refuse to take oath the consul to fine them, as if he were State attorney, and enforce payment of such sum as shall seem fit.

By the next galleys the consul to send the account books of the factory from the year 1440 down to the present day to the officials for Old Accounts; and should any acts of extortion be discovered, the property of the delinquents to be made responsible.

To free the factory entirely from the said acts of extortion, if the deposits now made do not amount to 8,000 ducats, all the London merchants are bound to supply the deficit by a loan, at the rate of from 15 to 20 livres gross each individual, according to the value of their merchandise, the sum to be repaid by the additional three per cent. beyond the usual duty. Should any of the merchants on their departure from London remain creditors for this loan it shall be repaid by the other merchants arriving there, as customary at Bruges.

Moneys recovered from debtors to be applied to the liquidation of the deposits. This is to be announced to the consul in London, he being desired to enforce it, under penalty of 1,000 ducats and perpetual privation of all offices and benefices.

[*Latin*, 66 *lines.*]

June 14. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 154.

**332.** DECREE of the SENATE in conformity with the foregoing, alluding to the Act of 21st March 1449, and desiring all debtors to the London factory to make their deposits in the course of the present month, after which period the officials are forbidden to receive them.

[*Latin*, 23 *lines.*]

Aug. 3. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 167.

**333.** DECREE of the SENATE alleging the necessity for examining the old accounts of the London factory, in order to make due provision. Wherefore it is put to the ballot that the consul in London, Bertucio Contarini, be charged under penalty of 1,000 ducats to send to the Signory, on the return of the present galleys, by their captain, Mapheo Contarini, all the account books of the factory from 1449 downwards, including those of his own time.

[*Latin*, 23 *lines.*]

Nov. 20. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 174.

**334.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the LONDON FACTORY.

For many years there have been great abuses in its administration. The necessary expenditure does not exceed 300 ducats per annum, and is payable by quotas of two per cent., yielding upwards of 11,000 ducats; yet by the fault of former consuls, factors and merchants, the factory's debt has increased to upwards, of 9,000 ducats, paying interest Some 6,000 ducats are needed for this account, which must be provided within three months.

It is put to the ballot, that all those who have merchandise coming with the galleys commanded by "Ser" Maphio Contarini, before a billet be made out for any one, or anything be passed by

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the customhouse officers, must deposit at the office for the Old Accounts —

For each bag of wool, 4 golden ducats.

For each piece of fine cloth, 1 ducat.

For each bastard cloth, 12 gross.

For every piece of Lowestoft (Lowesto), 8 gross.

For every piece of kersey, 6 gross.

For every other straight cloth, 3 gross per piece.

Cloths of other sorts to be rated at the option of the officials for the Old Accounts, and in like manner all other merchandise from London; for each piece of tin, one ducat.

For the future expenses of the factory, commencing with 1st March, 1457, the consuls to balance the accounts of the quotas annually, and to send the books to Venice.

"And as the (? foreign) nations have to make loans to the King, should such loans be needed hereafter, the merchants to make them by rates, and not the factory. Nor may they borrow money of the King, as this they do for their own benefit, and not for that of the trade."

Regulation for the guarantee of the factory's creditors, &c.

Amendment desiring the consul, Bertucio Contarini, to draw on Venice for 6,000 ducats instead of 6,500.

[*Motion in Italian, amendment in Latin,* 80 *lines.*]

Nov. 20. Senato Mar. v. v. p. 187.

**335.** SECOND DECREE of the SENATE concerning the DEBTS of the LONDON FACTORY.

The consul Bertuccio Contarini announces that at Christmas the factory has to pay 5,500 ducats, and 3,348 ducats in August 1457.

Measures proposed for a thorough comprehension of the factory's accounts, for the extinction of the debt, and guarantee of the creditors. Repetition of the clause concerning loans from foreign merchants to Edward IV.

The consul's salary and other expenses to be rated by the Council of Twelve, that thus the amount be borrowed from all the Venetian merchants in proportion to the merchandise imported or exported by them.

On the departure from England of the first galleys, the consul to divide all expenses incurred during their stay, in rates, in pence and pounds, according to the value of the imports and exports; exacting from all their quota, and repaying those who have advanced loans; the like being observed on each voyage.

The factory not to be debited with any expense on account of banquets made; nor may more than two pounds sterling be expended in celebrating St. Mark's festival. The factory not to be burdened with more than the usual 20*l.* given to the customers for putting a low price on the goods; and the consul not to incur any expense for the factory exceeding ten shillings without the Council of Twelve's sanction.

[*Italian,* 161 *lines.*]

1456.
Dec. 7.
Senato Mar. v. v. p. 176.

**336.** The SENATE to BERTUCIO CONTARINI, CONSUL in LONDON. Desire him to draw on Venice rather than on Bruges for the 860*l.* required for the payment of the London factory's debts, and confirming him in the post of consul for six months beyond the term assigned him, on account of his good administration of the business.

[*Italian*, 29 *lines.*]

1457.
March 14.
Senato Mar.

**337.** DECREE of the SENATE charging the officials for the Old Accounts to enforce the act passed on 20th November 1456, touching the debts of the London factory. The money levied for their payment to be remitted from time to time to the consul in London, under penalty of 100 ducats; and Tomà de Montorio to be ordered to make out the factory's balance sheet.

Moreover, they are charged, under penalty of 200 ducats, to purchase the usual presents for conveyance by the consul to the King of Tunis.

[*Latin*, 13 *lines.*]

April 5.
Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 13.

**338.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the voyage to Flanders and London. General regulations as in former years.

Prohibition against the shipment for intermediate ports, of the cloths called Loesti (Lowestoff or Western?) Bastards, Santone, Cotisualde (Cotswold?), and White Gilforti (Guilford?); and block tin and madder.

[*Latin*, 271 *lines.*]

Aug. 23.
Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 33.

**339.** DECREE of the SENATE.

By reason of the insult perpetrated by certain artificers and shopkeepers of London against the Italian nation, to the risk of their lives and property, the merchants of the Italian nation, namely, the Venetians, Genoese, Florentines, and Lucchese, met together, and after consultation, determined it was necessary to quit London, for personal safety and security of their property; and for their asylum they selected Winchester, stipulating amongst themselves that no individual of the nations aforesaid might go to London or trade there; as appears by the clauses read to this Council. For the observance of these clauses, the merchants wrote to their Lords to provide accordingly. It is therefore put to the ballot, that all the articles now read be confirmed, and that all persons disobeying them be subjected to penalties and censures, provided the governments of the other three nations also confirm the said clauses.

Moreover, it is ordained that, if any man of the Venetian ships bound to England go to London as long as the merchants remain absent, the consul shall levy a fine from him of 500 light livres, the state attorneys having their share. Should any one going to London buy or sell, in addition to this penalty, the whole of what he has bought or sold shall be forfeited; and under these penalties, be they debarred from going to England for ten years.

All who shall go to London during the period aforesaid shall

be subjected to the penalties contained in the clauses, and the state attorneys shall proceed against them for disobedience; but with regard to these words contained in the sixth clause at the close,—"but the said merchants will be bound to hold those who shall act contrary to these present orders as their personal enemies,"—be these cancelled throughout to the end of the paragraph, for the security of Venetian subjects navigating in the regions of the nations aforesaid. To the clauses be there also added, that the merchants must insist on having in Winchester a judge appointed by the King for all lawsuits and causes arising between Englishmen and Italians, and amongst Italians, that they may not have to go to the law courts of London.

A separate letter is to be written to the consul desiring him to urge the merchants of the other three states to reform the first clause concerning the division of the fines, &c., as it is very inordinate and contradictory.

[*Latin*, 30 *lines*.]

Sept. 19. Senato Mar.

**340.** DECREE of the SENATE alluding to an act passed for the formation of a deposit of 4,000 ducats for the payment of the debts of the London factory. As certain masters, merchants, and others, when the galleys were commanded by Lorenzo Moro, did not pay their quotas—and as the viceconsul writes from London that unless provided with 1,200*l.* payable in the present month, the factory will be in a worse plight than before,—be it enacted that the officials for Old Accounts do carefully examine the accounts of the quotas commencing with those payable on merchandise loaded in the galleys commanded by Marco Zeno, knight,* down to the present day, exacting the payment of all arrears.

Be it also decreed that the sea-customers, under penalty of 500 golden ducats, do not release any merchandise until after payment of the quotas.

[*Latin*, 22 *lines*.]

Oct. 11. Senato Mar.

**341.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the debts of the London factory.

As, in virtue of the act passed on the 20th November 1456, only some 3,300 ducats have been levied, the officials for Old Accounts, and the Masters of the Arsenal, or one of them, shall most diligently ascertain through registers, and by *all* other means, what goods were loaded in the galleys of which Mafio Contarini was captain, and exact the quotas.

The owners of goods brought by the present galleys under the command of Lorenzo Moro, who have not paid in London to the viceconsul the quota of five pence in the pound and the deposit of 3,348 ducats, to be held responsible in the merchandise loaded by

* According to the Farsetti MSS. in St. Mark's Library, Marco Zeno commanded the Flanders galleys in the year 1447.

1457.

them; and as these moneys will not suffice for the payment of the bills of exchange, be a deposit made thus—

For every sack of wool, one ducat.

For cloths, one-third of the sum deposited for those brought by the galleys under the command of "Ser" Maphio Contarini.

For copper, one ducat the 1,000 weight.*

All other things one-third less than last year's rate.

Other regulations to secure payment of arrears due to the London factory.

[*Italian*, 55 *lines.*]

Nov. 8. Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 42.

**342.** DECREE of the SENATE.

As Bertucio Contarini, consul in London, has borne himself prudently in the affair of the London factory, it is put to the ballot, that he be confirmed in his consulate till the measures decreed for the relief of the factory be carried out.

Ayes, 140. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 3.

[*Latin*, 5 *lines.*]

Dec. 1. Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 44.

**343.** DECREE of the SENATE, ordering the payment of all arrears due to the London factory on account of duties on merchandise conveyed by the Flanders galleys under the command of Mapheo Contarini and Lorenzo Moro.

[*Latin*, 10 *lines.*]

1458.

Feb. 2. Senato Terra. v. iv. p. 66.

**344.** MOTION made in the SENATE for the admission into Venice of all foreign cloths, on payment of one ducat a piece; from which duty the cloths of Flanders and England are to be exempted.

[*Latin*, 48 *lines.*]

March 3. Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 57.

**345.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders voyage.

[*Latin*, 300 *lines.*]

April 14. Senato Terra. v. iv. p. 70.

**346.** DECREE of the SENATE, prohibiting the importation into Venice of certain counterfeit cloths ordered in Flanders and England, called *Panni Garbi*, wrought in the Florentine fashion. Such cloths whether *garbi* or *fini*, shall pay an extra duty of 10 ducats per piece.

[*Latin*, 15 *lines.*]

* As these duties were decreed for the debts of the London factory, it is evident that the merchandise thus taxed came from England, and not from intermediate ports; so we learn, that copper may be classed amongst our exports in 1457,—a fact which does not seem generally known, it being stated in Haydn's Dictionary of Dates, that "in England copper-mines were discovered in 1561." In the statute book of Andrea Priuli, who was captain of the Flanders galleys in 1518, there is mention of tin and copper to be loaded by them in Flanders and England; and as both tin and copper might have been procured from Germany and Sweden by the Flemings, the notice of the duty on copper, for payment of the debts of the Venetian factory in London, is valuable.

1458.
July 11.
Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 77.

**347.** DECREE of the SENATE.

The merchants trading with Flanders and England are subjected to inconvenience for lack of a courier, so that occasionally during the past months no letters were received thence, nor could be sent thither. It is therefore put to the ballot, that the State proveditors do write to the consul at Bruges, desiring him to keep a courier for the mail as of yore.

Ayes, 109. Noes, 5. Neutrals, 9.

[*Latin, 5 lines.*]

Sept. 25.
Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 91.

**348.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the transit trade.

As much merchandise is conveyed from England and Bruges into the Levant, which, if brought first to Venice and then exported thither, would yield very great profit, it is put to the ballot that no Venetian citizen convey from western parts (that is to say, Sicily and below Sicily,) English or French cloths, serges, amber, furs (varos, ? minever), and tin into the regions of the Levant, (by which is meant Corfu and above Corfu,) until they have brought the said goods first of all to Venice, whence they may afterwards be exported in conformity with the Senate's other regulations.

Enumeration of penalties. The decree to be communicated to the captain of the Flanders galleys, to the Venetian consuls in Damascus and Alexandria, and to the Venetian governors in the Levant, namely, of Corfu, Modon, Coron, Napoli di Romani, and Negropont.

[*Latin, 29 lines.*]

1459.
Jan. 27.
Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 106.

**349.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders voyage.

[*Latin, 350 lines.*]

April 19.
Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 119.

**350.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Permitting Bortolomeo Floriano and Brothers to bring back to Venice, on payment of the usual duties, five pieces of English white cloth, shipped on board the Alexandrian galleys, for which no purchasers could be found.

[*Latin, 4 lines.*]

June 30.
Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 132.

**351.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the creditors of the London factory, who are unable to obtain their due because the Venetian merchants in London will neither pay import or export quotas.

Regulations and fines imposed for the remedy of this abuse.

Gratuity of 30 ducats voted to the scribe in the office for Old Accounts, Tomaso Montorio, for having made out the balance sheet of the London factory.

[*Italian, 24 lines.*]

1460.
March 11.
Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 157.

**352.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out three galleys for the Flanders voyage. General regulations as in former years.

Amendment, ordering both the English galleys to go to London.

[*Latin, 260 lines.*]

1460.
March 29.
Senato Mar.

**353.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the Consulate in London.

Our viceconsuls in London used annually to send the balance sheet of the factory to our officials for the Old Accounts, and every one understood it; but for the last three years this has not been done.

Be it put to the ballot, that the viceconsul in London be written to, and sent to express, to transmit, within one month at the farthest after the receipt of this mandate, a written statement of all the reckonings, debtors, creditors, and ledgers of the factory. Be the same done and continued by him and his successors annually, so that all may understand their affairs.

It was formerly enacted that the present viceconsul should exercise the consular office until the end of the aforesaid factory's debts could be seen, this consummation being hoped for within 18 months or two years; but this has not been the case. As it is not fitting that one single individual should enjoy this profit and honour, be the viceconsul charged by express to have a viceconsul his successor elected in the usual manner, who shall remain in that office one year; and thus from year to year be a new election made, so that all may share the emolument.

As there is a report of a project for incurring fresh expenses, especially about a new courier, be the viceconsul desired not to spend money for the courier, or in anything else unusual. If expenditure have been incurred he shall cancel it.

Ayes, 134. Noes, 7. Neutrals, 4.

[*Latin*, 19 *lines.*]

April 17.
In the Library of the Venetian Archives.
Miscell. No. 51.

**354.** PROTEST of a BILL of EXCHANGE for 200 ducats, drawn at Venice on 11th January 1460, by Fortin Dandolo, at usance, in favour of Lunardo Bondumier, on Nicolo da Pesaro, at the exchange of 47 pence per ducat. Protested in the presence of William Styfford, citizen of London and notary public, in front of the dwelling of Humphrey Hayford, citizen and goldsmith of London, in Lombard Street, where merchants of divers nations are wont daily to congregate.

[*Latin*, 22 *lines. The bill in Italian.*]

May 16.
Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 171.

**355.** DECREE of the SENATE.

By reason of the departure of their galleys from England, the King was indignant as he wanted to employ them on his own service, and arrested their merchants; who, if they wished to free themselves from prison, were compelled to give security for 36,000 ducats. Very great caution should be used in this matter, their release being sought in all suitable ways. If it come to the King's knowledge that, after the arrival here of this intelligence they did not abstain from having a bank opened for the galleys bound to those parts, nor from dispatching them, much inconvenience might result to the said merchants. Be it therefore put to the ballot, that the said galleys put up for the Flanders voyage do delay opening their banks till the Council decide further; and be the King and others written to for the release of the merchants.

Ayes, 88. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 12.

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Proposed amendment—

That the Flanders galleys do open their bank on Sunday next, the 18th instant, according to the Signory's order and their auction-contract.

Ayes, 43.

[*Latin*, 13 *lines*.]

May 29. **356.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 177.

Granting permission to Andrea Trono to bring back to Venice, on payment of the usual duties, a certain quantity of pepper-garbage conveyed by him to London with the present Flanders galleys, and which he had been unable to sell on account of the disturbances and customs' regulations in those parts; the Senate considering it humane to do by him as had been done by several others.

Ayes, 116. Noes, 5. Neutrals, 6.

[*Latin*, 4 *lines*.]

July 4. **357.** FRANCESCO COPPINI, BISHOP of TERAMO, the Papal Legate, to KING HENRY VI.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

Many days ago I wrote to your Serenity from Bruges and Calais that the lords of Calais had called me, requesting me to mediate for the conclusion of peace and extinction of civil discord in your realm, having heard that such was the Pope's commission and mandate, and assuring me by their letters, of which I transmitted a copy to your Majesty, and another to the Lord Chancellor, in order that, through him, the rest of the lords might learn their disposition towards such conditions of peace as they hoped would please you through my intervention. I wrote to you accordingly that, bound by this fair request, I was going to them to hear the terms of the peace, and besought you piously to ponder these matters.

Subsequently, on arriving at Calais, I found everything in confusion, in consequence of a new state of things and fresh accidents, and that the lords were on the point of crossing over to England, saying they could wait no longer by reason of emergencies. I found them disposed to be devoted and obedient to your Majesty, and desirous to maintain and augment the commonweal of the kingdom, but they wished to come to your Majesty and to be restored to favour and their former position, whence they declared themselves ousted and expelled by the envy of their rivals. They besought me to cross the sea with them, and mediate for the settlement of these affairs to avoid bloodshed; they offered to do and accept whatever was fair and just; and they drew up in writing certain articles, to which they pledged themselves under their seals and by oath. I firmly believe these articles will be agreeable to you, when examined calmly and dispassionately, as they are honourable to the Crown and advantageous to the princes and lords. Again I repeat that, had a safe place been appointed for a conference, I hoped it would be possible to suppress half the mischief I then anticipated, and which is now evidently imminent; and,

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seeing danger in delay, I came across with them. Their business, coming and progress were more rapid and sudden than they themselves expected; for they found a concourse of people marvellously anxious for their coming and reinstatement, and for the union of the whole kingdom. On these accounts and from lack of time I was prevented hastening to your Serenity; and was moreover impeded by the dangers of the roads from the concourse of a mixed population. The lords crossed the sea on Thursday and proceeded to London without stopping. I wished to proceed thence to your Majesty in fulfilment of my duties as pastor, envoy, and mediator, but many perils threatened my safety on the way, chiefly by reason of the barking murmurs and ambushes of certain persons who profess themselves devoted to you and are not. These men in many ways speak against God and the truth, and against your dignity; and they blame me and my holy and pious qualities and operations because they are enemies of peace. I hope that, ere long, your Highness will have proof of my fidelity, on perceiving your State reformed; God effecting this on account of your pure and holy intent, my faith, and the pious disposition of the Pope. As I am therefore unable to come in person, I write these letters, and beseech you, out of the compassion which you owe to your subjects, to prevent such bloodshed as is now at hand, against which you may provide if you will. Be pleased, therefore, before proceeding to hostilities, to contrive that I may be enabled to communicate with you concerning the forms and conditions to be observed for the avoidance of these misfortunes, and for effecting a union which is certainly not impossible nor very difficult, if your Highness, of your own free will and judgment, will allow yourself to be besought and to receive information. Should you not hearken, no one can say you are justified in fighting against your subjects now advancing. You may, if you choose, do everything that is just and fair without giving battle as you could after a victory, which however you could not count upon.

The lords tender obedience and fealty on condition that they be allowed to state their case in security and safety. This they allege to be impossible, unless they come with a strong force, as is notorious; yet they are willing to abstain from using arms if the means of having a safe and secure audience be conceded them: and Scripture says that recourse must be had to arms when justice cannot otherwise be obtained from adversaries. Let, therefore, a safe mode be devised for a conference between your Highness and those who are not partial or distrusted touching the truth and justice of the case; nor do I doubt but a complete adjustment will be effected, with safety for all the Lords: but if, after this experiment, you find it otherwise, you may then take up arms, which you could not justly do before it. Now this mode of conferring in safety will be discovered, if you put aside those who are held in suspicion by both parties, and if you listen to moderate and impartial men in your own person, wherein every one places trust. All this must be done quickly, as the matter admits of no delay: strife and bloodshed are at hand. That there may be no excuse for it before God or man, I repeat that the lords who came from Calais are ready to

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do and ratify whatever appears fair to me; and I offer to propose and accept whatever your Majesty deems just, provided you act of free will and remove suspected persons. Thus the matter is safe, and rests in the hands of your Highness and me, if we choose. Now I do choose, and offer myself, if you please. If not, I will hold myself guiltless before God, the apostolic chair and the people of England, and will send a copy of these letters to all nations in proof of my not having failed to fulfil my office. You have long known me, and I call your conscience to witness to my faithfulness and sincerity, although certain cursed slanderers say I am a suspicious character, as I was at Calais and in communication with these lords. Your Highness knows that I lived nearly a year and a half in England by commission of the Pope, while I remained but a short period with these lords. Besides, it is my duty to communicate with both parties. Indeed, your Majesty ought to open your eyes to the fact that these evil speakers are the clerks and ministers of the devil, who wish not the welfare and unity of your realm. I have often reminded you of the words of the Gospel: "A kingdom divided against itself shall be laid waste." The Pope has repeatedly done the like, on account of the perils of the state and realm. I do not seek my own advantage, as your Majesty and your whole Council have been long aware. My devotion to the Crown entitles me to attention. If that is not given me, I will clear myself before the Pope, and before the entire convocation of clergy and people, in which I have had these letters published. I send them by a trusty messenger, a sworn serjeant-at-arms of your Majesty's household, that by this or by other means they may reach your notice. I shall thus be guiltless if any blood be shed. I expect a speedy answer. London, 4 July, 1460.

*In the margin*:—"1460, 4th day of July. Published in full convocation of the Anglican clergy and at St. Paul's Cross, and transmitted forthwith to the King by a messenger of his household.

"This letter was sent by the Legate when he determined on crossing over to England with the Earl of Warwick and other lords who were in Calais; and although the document be of old date, nevertheless, for comprehension of the said Legate's proceedings in this matter and of his fair dealing, the said copy is sent in reply to such calumnies as may be alleged against him by his adversaries; and, if read with attention, it will explain many things."

[*Copy, Latin, pp.* 13.]

Aug. 16. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**358.** FRANCESCO COPPINI, BISHOP OF TERAMO, Papal legate, to FRANCESCO SFORZA Duke of MILAN.

The bearer is Messer Antonio della Torre, esquire and servant of the King of England, and his envoy to the Pope (Pius II.) He is likewise sent by the prelates and lords of England on business pertaining to the republic of this noble realm and good state newly reformed by me. He is most devoted to you, and a trusty friend of mine, I have therefore commissioned him to acquaint you with several things concerning your duchy, about which we have often conferred together. Please give him credence If you think fit to

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write to the papal court, or give him any commission there about my business, I shall esteem it an especial favour. Your Excellency however must decide on acting or not, as you deem advantageous. Canterbury, 15 Aug., 1460.

*Signed:* "F. Bishop of Teramo, Legate of the Apostolic chair in England."

P.S.—A few days ago, Master John Lax, this King's envoy, wrote of the honour done him by you. When I mentioned this to the King, he was much satisfied; and we talked together of you and your rare qualities. I think the King would do anything to please you. I also thank you on my own account for giving Lax a good reception for my sake.

*Addressed:*—"To the most Illustrious Prince and most Excellent Lord Francesco Sforza Visconti, Count of Pavia and Angleria, &c., Duke of Milan, my noble lord and most especial benefactor in Milan."

[*Copy, Italian, 82 lines.*]

Dec. 10. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**359.** KING HENRY VI. to POPE PIUS II.

Our envoy, Antonio della Torre, sent lately to the Pope, has returned and rejoiced us with news of your singular affection towards us and our realm. We thank you for your gracious reception of the ambassador, and pray you to continue your goodwill. As there daily arises cases for reference to you, we send Antonio back with fullest information concerning our intentions and passing events, and beg credence for him, especially in what he will relate concerning the Bishop of Teramo, your Legate, on account of whose fidelity and eminent deserts, the good will borne him here augments incessantly; he has effected much good, and may effect more if assisted. We again recommend him for preferment. Have done our part, notwithstanding the customs of the realm, by qualifying the Legate, with the will and counsel of the lords, as Antonio will certify. London, 10 Dec., 1460.

[*Copy, Latin, 51 lines.*]

1461.
Jan. 9. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**360.** The BISHOP of TERAMO to Master LORENZO, of Florence, resident with Queen Margaret.

Manifest perils require my writing, as I am unable to come safely in person to the Queen. In the first place, I require you to declare and offer on your own behalf, that, should it ever be found that I excommunicated any one aiding her Majesty, or following her, I am willing to be flayed or torn asunder; for I excommunicated nobody, cursed nobody, never offended anybody in this kingdom, yet will be ready to do all that and even more if required. What I said and did is contained in my letters published to the clergy and people, of which I sent a copy through you to the Queen, and again inclose the duplicate. They contain my intentions, present and future. They lie who speak otherwise of me. I am ready to stand every possible test. I have heard it is said that those who fell at Northampton could not be buried without my licence.

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This was not from my fault, but from public opinion, which considered those men excommunicated who refused to listen to a treaty of peace, and thus opposed the Pope's mandates and impugned his authority. I respect her Majesty as much as any man living; she has seen that I did not desert her cause in adversity, and for her I am ready to suffer anything. I write that you may testify to the truth wherever necessary. You know what you told me at the time of the Parliament on behalf of the Queen, what her Majesty wrote with very great passion to me, and what I communicated concerning the mode and conditions of the peace; also that I wished you to wait a few days to enable me to negotiate, as that nobleman of whom you spoke had, amongst all the rest, ever shown himself well disposed to the Queen and in favour of peace: but you could wait no longer. I perceived afterwards the scandals which ensued for want of pacificators, and at present things have come to such a pass that acts of vengeance have been perpetrated on both sides, even beyond what was due; so, as there is now ground for peace, I wish it to be made, and the King desires the same. I therefore notify you, as the trusty confidant of the Queen and those lords that they can have a fair peace if they attend to the legate's counsels, and do not scorn the Pope's authority, as of yore. The conditions will be satisfactory to them if they listen to my advice; and if you come to me in person, as you safely may, I have no doubt but peace will result. You will tell those lords, and especially the Duke of Somerset,—whom I respect for his rare qualities and his love to the Queen and country,—that if they disregard my advice they doom the realm and the Queen's weal to destruction. They ought not to presume upon the trifling victory they obtained owing to the disorderly advance of the others, for I know that the entire population is rabid, and very ill disposed against all who are averse to peace, for two reasons: first, because of the infinite cruelties attributed to them, whereas these (the Yorkists) were not cruel, and took into favour all who would come to them; secondly, because they know that the King and the lords his adherents, including me, are disposed towards a fair and honorable peace, and such as shall be advantageous for both sides. If therefore the cause intrusted to you fail through these lords, they will be in the worst possible plight; they will see in arms for their destruction upwards of 200,000 desperate men, who are constantly mustering and offering to hazard their lives and property in this just cause. I too am bound to sanction anything the King wills by a special mandate I recently received from the Pope. To effect this the Pope has sent me authority to raise and defend the cross after the manner of a true legate *de latere;* so let it be understood that if they do anything contrary to his will and mandate, they will be accounted criminals and rebels. I am as ready as ever to risk my life and property for the weal and glory of the King and his realm, without any personal reward. I therefore pray them, at the reverence of God, and if they desire the weal of their King and country, not to slight me and my counsels, but respect the authority of the Vicar of Christ and his Legate. Thus they may obtain a fair peace.

But whatever else they disregard, let them give heed to this one

1461. fact. Formerly, when I was with these lords, and especially the Earl of Warwick (on account of whose sincere inclination to the King I principally came), God was with them, even though I was not with the King, towards whom I nevertheless was piously disposed. Much more ought they to suppose that God will be on our side, now that I am with the King and intent on his welfare, and now that I have greater power than I then had. I am exerting myself with the King's free will, who is not under restraint, as some falsely allege. He enjoys full liberty, and every person has free access to him, which was notoriously not the case formerly, as I experienced, being neither allowed to approach him, nor yet to deliver or send to him the Pope's or my own letters. They are, in consequence, bound to obey the King, and should give credence to me. The King deprecates battle, murder, and rapine, and all ills proceeding thence, and by his will the Legate offers them peace. Let them be well disposed and obedient, and they shall have a fair peace, which I offer by the will of his Majesty. I see no other remedy, and pray them to avert their ruin. I desire their welfare, and repeat that I have put myself forward for the common weal without any personal advantage. I have hitherto, as they know, exercised my office without slur; I have suffered and toiled solely for the public good, and have exposed myself to great perils when I might have been living in quiet out of the kingdom. If they scorn the peace they formerly upheld as fair, they will fall under the displeasure of God. London, 9 Jan., 1461.

*Signed:* "F. Episcopus Interammensis Apostolicæ Sedis Legatus."

[*Copy. Latin,* 315 *lines.*]

P.S. Lorenzo! tell those lords not to despise my letters, for they are of other substance than has been supposed hitherto. If any one should be dissatisfied, say I think it better to make peace as victor than as vanquished. This was what the sage and prudent Romans used to do. They must consider how much they have to accomplish before they can conquer, and who their opponents are. The King, from his experience of my Lord of Warwick and his adherents, is determined to defend them to the death, as he never had more faithful subjects. The whole of the people is similarly disposed. I assure you the means of peace are such that, could I but speak with them in safety, they would approve them. I cannot put them in writing, but could have shown them to you if you had come. I pray you to contrive that my letters be listened to and understood.

[*Copy. Italian,* 48 *lines.*]

Jan. 9. **361.** [The Bishop of Teramo] to ———.*

Sforza Archives, Milan. I trust all will be remedied, though the perils are great, the Earl of Warwick being here with the King, who, together with the neighbouring population, is well disposed towards my intention. I have recommended them, in the meanwhile, not to give battle to desperate enemies, who are, moreover, strong in consequence of this victory, but to remain on the defensive till Easter. During the

* Apparently to some correspondent in Rome.

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interval I am, with the consent of the majority, negotiating an agreement by fair means; and my reputation must receive succour from Rome, my legation and Warwick requiring nothing else. For its attainment letters and commissions have been drawn up here in conformity with my wishes, as you will learn from Dom. Antonio [della Torre]. I shall have effected wonders if the affair succeed. A large army is now being formed, and after dispatching these matters, which will occupy but a few days, the King will advance, being guided by one who has the wish—the victory being recent, although he did not indicate this openly to me: it will suffice for the accomplishment of our affair. London, 9 Jan., 1461.

*Not signed. No address.*

[*Copy. Italian, 32 lines.*]

Jan. 9. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**362.** ANTONIO DELLA TORRE to FRANCESCO SFORZA DUKE of MILAN.

Many days ago I was dispatched on my way back, with every commission fitting and favourable for public and private affairs, being charged to make every demand by word of mouth. When I arrive at Milan you will perceive that here they do not slumber over the affairs of the Church or of your Excellency, nor yet over those of all Italy. When I was on the eve of departure some very important events occurred, to see whose result I tarry a few days.

Some of those lords, the Queen's adherents, were made desperate by the victory obtained by these lords (the Yorkists), and especially by the Earl of Warwick,; so they assembled a force in the north, some 80 miles from London, for the purpose of coming to attack these their adversaries, who are with the King, and of getting him into their possession again. The Duke of York, with his two sons and the Earl of Salisbury, Warwick's father, marched to meet them; their forces were the strongest by three to one, but were mismanaged, a great part of the host being indiscreetly allowed to go on pillaging and foraging expeditions. Their opponents, who are desperate, attacked and routed them, killing the Duke, his younger son, the Earl of Rutland, Warwick's father, and many others. The news of the defeat struck great terror into this side, though Warwick was not at the battle. Owing to his singular valour and his popularity, and as the King keeps him all to himself, he is engaged in making preparations with very great encouragement. The cause of the catastrophe is the small account in which the Legate's doings have hitherto been held at Rome. The other party has circulated reports that he was not Legate, and that the Pope had recalled him because he was dissatisfied with his proceedings. Nevertheless the whole of the people hereabouts, who love the King and Warwick and are mindful of the advantage which the Legate's presence afforded them on the last occasion, take courage and muster willingly on hearing that he is on the spot. It is hoped that within a month or two there will be upwards of 150,000 men in the field. The belief is that, if peace do not ensue, the ruin in this kingdom will be greater than has been witnessed for the last thousand years. Should the Legate escape, he may, perhaps, put himself again in the midst of this turmoil, though he has no cause to do so unless

1461. he be held in greater respect by the Roman court, which—I crave pardon for saying so—does not appear to know him so well as your Lordship does. During this interval the Legate has written a letter to the opposite party, of which I send a copy. It is addressed to an Italian friar, the Legate's intimate dependent, who is there. Had the Church of Rome shown that it held these English affairs in greater account than it has done, repute would have maintained and augmented the first victory, which is now, as it were, lost and confused. I shall set out as soon as possible; and it is needful that in the meantime you should urge the [Romish] court to make some further demonstration here speedily. Projects honorable and favorable for the state of the Church, and to the intent of the Pope and of Italy, have been again arranged, and are such as have never been witnessed in our days. But as the Legate is a poor bishop, the prelates at Rome consider the great things he effects here as dreams, though experience has shown them so much that it ought to suffice for their belief. Possibly the bane is envy, as I became partly aware when over there. London, 9 Jan.

P.S. This engagement took place on the 30th of December, near Pontefract Castle.

*Signed:* "Your said most illustrious Lordship's most devoted servant, [and] of the Household of his Royal Majesty, Antonius de Turri, manu propria."

[*Copy. Italian, 3½ pages.*]

Jan. 11. **363.** RICHARD NEVILL EARL OF WARWICK to POPE PIUS II.

Sforza Archives, Milan. Your Holiness must not be troubled if you have heard of the events in England, and of the destruction of some of my kinsmen in the battle against our enemies. With the assistance of God and of the King, who is excellently disposed, all will end well. We shall obtain either a fair and sure peace or victory, especially if you confer the long-expected promotion on your Legate. The people will then see that our adversaries, who daily spread lying reports, are false and not true men; for they scorn your authority and the Legate's, and say the latter has no power and is no legate, adding marvellous falsehoods to make him unpopular, to the detriment of the Church and the King. If, according to your former letters, you value my allegiance and the allegiance of those who are conscientiously aiding the King and the Legate (in conformity with the statement of Dom. Antonio della Torre, his Majesty's ambassador), it will be necessary so to deal with us and the Legate that all may know such to be the fact, and that he may bear the [legantine] cross which you sent him, without envy and opposition on account of our two Archbishops and Primates, as Dom. Antonio, the bearer, can inform you. Be pleased to give him full credence, and do not desert me and the others whom you formerly received as sons, for eventually you will see us end well and devoutly. The King sends his recommendations and desires certain concessions, which Antonio will declare. London, 11 Jan. 1461.

*Signed:* "Your said Holiness's most devoted son and subject, R. Earl of Warwick."

[*Copy. Latin, 58 lines.*]

1461.
Jan. 11. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**364.** RICHARD NEVILL, EARL OF WARWICK, to FRANCESCO SFORZA, DUKE OF MILAN.

Probably you have already heard from the Legate certain news from these parts with regret, from the good will you bear us all and our state. You may notwithstanding be of good cheer, for we hope doubtless to remedy everything, especially if the Legate be promoted by the Pope, as we trust. This would confound the malice of our enemies, who from lack of other means circulate among the people a thousand rogueries and lies against the authority of the Pope and Legate. On this and other business we are again sending Dom. Antonio della Torre to the Pope and to you, and beg credence for him. The promotion of the Legate is indispensable, if the Pope mean to aid the state of the Church and our just cause. We are devoted to the Pope and to the commonweal of his Majesty and the realm, which our adversaries endeavour to destroy. They will be prevented doing so if the expected favour be granted by the Pope. London, 11 Jan. 1461.

*Signed:* "Your Excellency's son and kinsman, Richard Nevill, Earl of Warwick."

[*Copy. Latin, 40 lines.*]

Jan. 28. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**365.** The BISHOP of TERAMO to [CHECCO DI CALABRIA?] a Minister of the Duke of Milan.

You will receive information from the inclosure I sent to the Duke. Master Antonio della Torre departed hence on the 16th, and crossed the sea on his way over there with very copious letters and in excellent form. I trust the present messenger will arrive right speedily. Acquaint the Duke with everything and recommend me to him. I find myself in these straits solely for the sake of doing good. London, 28 Jan. 1461.

*Signed:* "Your Brother, Bishop of Teramo, Legate of the Apostolic See, manu propria."

*Not addressed.*

[*Copy. Italian, ½ page.*]

Feb. 14. Senato Mar. v. vi. p. 213.

**366.** DOGE PASQUAL MALIPIERO to the CAPTAIN of the FLANDERS GALLEYS.

By letters and other statements has heard of the discord and war in England. Having regard for the safety of the merchants of the galleys, and of the property of his subjects thereabouts, and the period assigned for his stay in Antwerp having expired, has determined to command him to depart thence with the galleys for Hampton with as much speed and safety as possible. During his stay at that place he is not to go ashore, and to give permission to land to as few as possible. He is also to hasten his return from Hampton.

Ayes, 142. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 0

[*Italian, 13 lines.*]

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Feb. 20. **367.** The BISHOP of TERAMO to MASTER RICHARD CAÑTEN.

Sforza Archives, Milan. Has arrived safely in Holland after many perils, having been accompanied by Master Richard and others appointed by the Yorkist lords to Gravesend on Friday 10th Feb. 1461. After their departure he went on board ship at the town of Tilbury, and reached the mouth of the Thames with a fair wind, but the vessel being a large one, ran risk of being stranded there. On the morrow, when out of sight of land, the ship struck on a sand bank and was expected to go to pieces. Shortly after the vessel floated with the flood tide, but was next pursued by a Frenchman; then came a violent storm. At length the Legate landed safely at the Brill, a village belonging to the Count of Hostervant, an infirm old man who can no longer walk. The Count, with incredible courtesy, made him presents and took him to his own dwelling. On the morrow (for the Legate had come by night) he had him attended in solemn procession from his lodging to the church. He banqueted him and his household daily, the table being served so sumptuously "that not even in England would more have been possible," such was the plenty of the choicest fish, wines, and other luxuries. Performed the vows he made at sea. Awaits the result of affairs in England, and has prayers offered up for their prosperity. Should nothing occur in the meanwhile, purposes quitting the Brill for Middleburgh and Calais on Monday, 23rd Feb. Commends himself and his followers to the King and the Lords of the Council. The Brill, 20 Feb. 1461.

P.S. Is sending to him the bulls he requested for his friends, with one for Master Thomas, chaplain of the Lord Chancellor, another for an esquire in the service of the Bishop of Salisbury, and a third for Thomas Gray, of the Legate's own retinue. Charges him to exhort Gray to attend to the Legate's affairs, and say that had he, as in duty bound, come to him on his departure, the Legate would have given him something he would have been glad of.

*Signed:* "F. Interamnensis Apostolicæ Sedis Legatus."

*Addressed:* "The Worshipful and most Excellent Master Richard Cañten, clerk of the Apostolic Chamber, and Chancellor (Cañce: ? canon) of St. David's."

[*Copy. Latin, 200 lines.*]

March 14. **368.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage.

Senato Mar. v. vii. p. 5.

[*Latin, 274 lines.*]

March 18. **369.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. vii. p. 3. In the olden time the consuls in Bruges and London used every month to send a bag with the letters of the merchants. Two bags were received, two thirds of their cost being paid by the merchants of Bruges and one third by the London merchants. Now, on the contrary, scarcely one bag is received, for two months have elapsed without the receipt of any letters or advices from those parts. It is therefore put to the ballot, that the consul at Bruges be desired to keep two bags, sending one of them to Venice every month;

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and that half the expenses be paid by the merchants of Bruges and the other half by the merchants of London. Notice of this resolve to be given to the consul in London that he may have an understanding on this subject with the consul at Bruges.

Ayes, 113. Noes, 1. Neutrals, 1.

[*Latin, 9 lines.*]

April 7. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**370.** GEORGE NEVILL, BISHOP OF EXETER, Chancellor of England, to FRANCESCO COPPINI, BISHOP of TERAMO, in Flanders.

As something new has occurred here since your departure, I will write briefly about these events, as learnt by letters, from the lips of messengers, or from common report; although they are much incumbered and perplexed with many important matters.

On the 13th kalends of March (17th February) we fought unsuccessfully near St. Alban's, the details of which action would be too long to narrate, but I think it right to give a summary of the battle. Lord Berners (John Bourchier), brother of the Archbishop of Canterbury (Thomas Bourchier), with my brother Lord Montagu (John Nevill) and Sir Thomas Charleton, Knight, were captured and taken as far as York. Lord de Bonneville and Sir Thomas Kiryel were taken and beheaded, and many of inferior station on our side were destroyed. The loss on both sides amounts to well nigh 3,000 men. We however fled, and lost that puppet of a King—fortunate assuredly in this disaster; whereupon the puppet was carried off northwards and the country ravaged; at length the woman with her consort got to York, big everywhere of their not bloodless and unquestionable victory. Meanwhile Prince Edward, then commonly called Earl of March, was leading an army of 30,000 men towards London, where he made his entry with my brother the Earl of Warwick (who had escaped to him from the former battle) on the 3rd kalends of March (27th February). He was received joyfully by the entire population, and at Westminster on the fourth of the nones of the month (4th March), at the demand, nay, by compulsion of well nigh all present, both Lords and Commons, he was appointed King; the ceremony of his coronation, for important reasons, being alone deferred.* Thereupon, on the third of the ides of the month (13th March), he proceeded northwards with a numerous army, having a week previously dispatched my said brother westward to muster forces. The King and the brave Duke of Norfolk, with my brother, and my uncle Lord de Fauconbridge, took different roads, and at length joined forces near York. There, having recruited and marshalled their brigades, they forthwith marched towards the enemy, and at daybreak on Palm Sunday, not far from York, namely at Ferrybridge, a town 16 miles from that city, the attack commenced. The enemy had broken the ferry-bridge, and, occupying the narrow raft which our people had made after its destruction by handicraft, they stoutly disputed its passage, but we carried it sword in hand. Very many were killed on both sides, but at length the enemy showed their

* In the margin of the letter there is a note, thus:—"King Edward is elected, and is called the 4th (Edwardus Rex eligitur et IIII. appellatur)."

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backs and many fell in the flight. That day's battle was a great one; for it commenced about sunrise and lasted till about ten o'clock at night, such was the obstinacy and boldness of mortal men on the verge of a wretched death. At the town of Tadcaster, eight miles from York, very many of the fugitives were drowned in the river, the enemy having themselves broken the bridge in their rear beforehand. Of the remainder who escaped for the moment a great part were killed in that town, and in the city [of York]; and quite lately one might have still seen the bodies of these unfortunate men lying unburied, over a space nearly six miles in length and three or four furlongs broad. I understand that eleven lords of the enemy's party perished, including the Earls of Devon and Northumberland, Lords de Clifford and Nevill, together with sundry knights; and according to the report of those acquainted with the particulars, the loss on both sides amounted to well nigh 28,000 men. Oh luckless race!

". . . . . populumque potentem
In sua victrici conversum viscera dextra—"*

to use the words of Lucan—a mighty people turning their victorious weapons against their entrails. Alas! we are a race deserving of pity even from the French, if indeed their breasts contain the smallest spark of pity for the blood of our people, who for civil and intestine war have thus set that hand which, if directed by a *fitting leader* against the perfidious enemies of Christendom, might possibly not a little have crippled their forces. But it is just that we—who, when so strongly urged by you and others to aid the army of the Pope against the foes of Christ, would neither contribute men nor money—should diminish our own wealth and shed our own blood in torrents for the sake of civil strife. But returning to the subject, the above mentioned puppet and Margaret herself, with her son, the Duke of Somerset and a few others, escaped to Newcastle, sixty miles north of York; though two letters have been forwarded hither, stating that the fugitives have been captured by certain knights, our adherents in that district. I cannot, however, venture to assert anything in this matter; but I fancy they will not easily get away.

I prefer you should learn from others than myself how manfully our King, the Duke of Norfolk, and my brother and uncle bore themselves in this battle; first fighting like common soldiers, then commanding, encouraging, and rallying their squadrons like the greatest captains.

After this, on the morrow, the eve of the kalends of April, our King with his army entered York peaceably, my brother, Lord Montagu, and Lord Berners, who had been left in the city when the enemy fled, having on that same day come to ask pardon for the citizens. I believe the King will remain there some time, to reorganise matters in those parts; whither I have been quite lately commanded by his Majesty to betake myself.

I now hope that such storms will be succeeded by halcyon days, that a calmer breeze may rejoice us after such cloudy skies, and that

* See the opening lines of the Pharsalia.

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we may at length reach the desired haven after so many wrecks. I will send news of further events, and hope you may return to England.

London, 7th ides of April (7 April).

*Signed:* "George of Exeter."

*Addressed:* "To the most Reverend," etc. "the Lord Francesco, by the grace of God Bishop of Teramo, our most holy Lord's Legate in England."

[*Copy. Latin, 8 pages.*]

April 7. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**371.** RICHARD BEAUCHAMP, BISHOP OF SALISBURY, to FRANCESCO COPPINI, BISHOP OF TERAMO.

We received in London, on 2nd April, your letters dispatched from Bruges on the 20th March. Fortune has favoured us since you, before the commencement of our worst disasters, quitted this luckless land.

After the disastrous battle of St. Alban's the late King fell into the hands of the aggressors, very many of his [partisans] being killed. This convulsed the whole kingdom; for myself, indeed, as one out of many thousands, no place seemed safe; a general dread prevailed of the destruction of cities, of rapine without respect for persons, sex, or sanctuaries; and lastly, which is yet more terrible, there was scarcely any one who did not fear that his own head was threatened. Many of the nobles who, in these straits, sought to consult their safety by flight, were prevented by the plots of the commons, who possibly expected to be able to procure peace for themselves with the heads of such great men. Of those however who, keeping their own secret, escaped by stealth, some of our own party, as we learnt quite recently, have most unfortunately fallen into the hands of the enemy or of pirates, together with much of the kingdom's treasure.

I therefore congratulate you on your escape from these perils in our land, from perils at sea, and from the perils of false brethren to a place of refuge. We on the other hand were harassed by the dread of utter destruction until the northern men with their captive King, and laden with much booty, returned straggling northwards, having possibly heard [of the approach] of Edward, then Duke of York, who was not present at that unfortunate engagement. Our people therefore, perceiving the downfal, not merely of things in general, but of themselves individually—impending ruin most cruelly devised by man—and that the treaty, peace, and compromise made by the late parliament was not observed by the opposite party,—on the coming shortly after of the Duke to the city of London, with a stately retinue, the citizens unanimously and marvellously applauded his title to the crown, raising him to the throne as the sole and true heir of the realm, and acknowledging him as their liege lord; which ceremony of the new King's coronation was performed . . . . . on 4th March.

Thereupon, a countless multitude flocking to him in increasing numbers daily, our most glorious King Edward set out on the 13th day of the said month from London towards the north to

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confound his enemies there. Amongst his adherents who accompanied or preceded him were the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Warwick, Lord de Fauconbridge, Lord John Stanley, Lord Fitzwalter, the only one, we hear, of the lords on this side who was killed; and before the battle the King's army increased to well nigh 200,000 men.

At present marvellous is the joy at this event of all the cities and places of the realm; and indeed yet more wonderful is it, in such wise as to appear to many almost incredible, that even on the sterile soil of our country, owing to the purchases made of provisions, such a multitude should experience no scarcity.

We therefore hope that God, who has hitherto allowed a sinful race to be sorely smitten under an unfortunate sovereign, being now appeased by tears and prayers, has at length sent us this saviour, in whose sight, indeed, I myself have found such grace and favour that he has selected me to be chief of the three persons to whom all the most secret matters of his Council are referred. From the King, his predecessor, under whom I grew up almost from the cradle, I could not presume on such favour. You have in me a trusty advocate. As yet we approve your determination to await the stable result of this important business. We will give you the news of current events, the most important of which is that on Palm Sunday last King Edward commenced a very hard-fought battle with the enemy near York, the result remaining doubtful during the whole of the day, till at length victory declared itself on his side, at a moment when those present affirm that almost all of our followers despaired of it, so great was the power and impetus of the enemy, had not the Prince single-handed put himself forward so notably as he did, with the utmost of human courage.

There consequently perished an amount of men nearly . . . . . hitherto unheard of in our country, and estimated by the heralds at 28,000, besides the wounded and those who were drowned. Amongst the dead were ten lords of note and great power, and the few who got away in small number are, we hope, taken, or so surrounded as to be unable to attempt escape. These [fugitives] are the Dukes of Somerset and Exeter and Lord de Roos, with their and our former King Henry, Prince, and Queen. The entire realm now acknowledges one sovereign, and the power of others has utterly vanished.

London, 7th ides of April 1461.

[P.S.] Concerning our summons to the Roman court, as our service is acceptable to the King, we beseech you to write back that we are relieved from that burthen for the present. We trust shortly to make a journey beyond sea, perhaps even to the Roman court, for honourable causes.

*Signed:* "R. Beauchamp, Bishop of Salisbury."

*Addressed:* "To the Right Rev., &c., The Lord F., by the grace of God Bishop of Teramo and Legate from the Apostolic See, now sojourning at Bruges."

[*Copy. Latin, 6 pages.*]

1461.
April 8.
Sforza Archives Milan.

**372.** NICHOLAS O'FLANAGAN,* BISHOP of ELPHIN, to the BISHOP of TERAMO, Papal Legate.

I had a prosperous journey hitherward when I came from you, and am now in London in good bodily health. I should have written by Master Antonio, but he quitted London by stealth, after robbing me of 10*l.* sterling. I pray you find some means for the recovery of the money.

King Edward IV. gained a victory over his enemies on Palm Sunday. The list of those who were killed is overleaf, namely, the Earls of Northumberland and Devon, the Lords de Clifford, de Beaumont, Dacre, de Willoughby, de Welles and de Scales, Anthony de Ryvere Lord Maley (Mauley), Rafe Bygot Lord Nevill, Lord Henry, son of the Duke of Buckingham, Sir Rafe Percy, Sir Thomas Bellingham, Sir Andrew Trolopp, Sir William Bastard of Exeter, &c. The number of commoners killed on the other side was 28,000, while on King Edward's side only one lord was killed, Lord Fitzwalter, and 800 men of the commons. The late King and Queen and the Prince, with the Dukes of Somerset and Exeter, took flight, and King Edward was received into the city of York with honour and great dread. He sent a great number of men-at-arms in pursuit of the fugitives, so that not one may escape when taken. All this is indubitably true, and on account [thereof] there was a great ceremony in London on Holy Saturday of Easter, when "Te Deum" was sung and the Lord Chancellor in person proclaimed these facts at St. Paul's Cross. The King sent for the Chancellor [to go] to York.

On Easter Monday, at the vesper hour, I was in the house of the Duchess of York. Immediately after vespers the Lord Treasurer came to her with an authentic letter, stating that the late King with his kindred and the personages above mentioned had been all captured and brought to King Edward. On hearing this news the Duchess [returned] to the chapel with two chaplains and myself and there we said "Te Deum;" after which I told her that the time was come for writing to your Lordship, of which she approved. I come to the conclusion that everything is proceeding prosperously for King Edward: at present all England rejoices vastly, and reverences him alone as King and Lord.

As touching Master John de Aleyn, I sent to him at Oxford, and was answered that he is confined in Warwick Castle, because he chose to go to the Queen. Concerning . . . . . Bishop of . . . . . heard since I quitted you. I have been unable to send you anything certain; but I now perceive, from the language of the Lord of Salisbury, that the English will not have any one from your country to fill any charge amongst them, unless it be yourself. I published the jubilee to them, whereon

* See Bullarium Ordinis Prædicatorum, tom. iii. p. 374; ex Archivio Apostolico, lib. xl., fol. 129.

Nicholas O'Flanagan, Bishop of Elphin, is styled by Pope Calistus III. in the bulls appointing him to that see, dated 7th June, 1458, "Ordinis Fratrum Prædicatorum Professor : . . . ac in Sacra Theologia peritissimus." He is not named in Ware or Harris's imperfect list of the Bishops of this see. But see *De Burgo: Hibernia Dominicana*, p. 475.

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they all congratulate themselves, and should you wish me to work upon these lords, I will spare no pains to do what is possible and useful. Sir Richard Chancellor (Dominus Ricardus Cancell)* and certain other gentlemen have not yet received the letters left by you Antwerp; they had heard nothing about you till I went to them. As soon as you can, write to the King, the Chancellor, and other Lords, as I see they wish it; also to the Duchess, who is very partial to you, and [holds] the King at her pleasure. She will not fail you in anything you ask, as long as I have any power. London, on the third holiday of Easter week, 1461.

*Signed:* "N. Bishop of Elphin."

*Addressed:* "The Lord F. Bishop of Teramo, Legate of the Apostolic See in England, Scotland and Ireland; for delivery at Bruges."

[*Copy. Latin, 4½ pages.*]

ii. List of the lords who fell on the side of the northern men in the battle near York:—

Earls - { of Northumberland. / of Devon.

Barons - { Lord de Clifford. / „ John Beaumont. / „ Welles. / „ Nevill. / „ Dacres. / Anthony, son of Lord le Ryvers, lately made Lord "le Scales." / Ralph Bygot, commonly called Lord "le Malley" (de Mauley). / Henry, son of the Duke of Buckingham.

Knights - { Sir Henry Belingham. / „ Ralph Grey. / — Andrew Trollopp.

"The number of men that fell on the field, besides the wounded and drowned, 28,000. And on the side of our Edward the only lord who fell was Lord John Fitzwalter."

April 11. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**373.** NICHOLAS O'FLANAGAN, BISHOP of ELPHIN, to the BISHOP of TERAMO, Papal Legate.

What I wrote in my former letter concerning King Edward's good fortune has been confirmed, as will probably have been notified to you by the Lord Chancellor and the Bishop of Salisbury. It is reported among the English lords that the Duke of Burgundy is treating the King's brothers with respect. This pleases them wonderfully, and they believe there will be a great friendship between the Duke and the English by means of an indissoluble treaty, and that one of the King's brothers will marry the daughter of Charolois (filiam Charles). I understand, from what the Bishop of Salisbury says,

* It may be surmised that "Sir Richard Chancellor" is the "Richard Cañten," to whom the Bishop of Teramo wrote on 20th February 1461.

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that he wishes you to prevail on the Duke and his Council to write to himself individually, as the King's privy councillor, respecting what should be done between them; and he would have you work diligently and efficiently. I heard this moment of the Bishop of Meath; but Master John Alleyn is still in Warwick Castle. Do not delay writing to those lords by the bearer. London, on the sixth holiday in Easter week, 1461.

*Signed:* "N. Bishop of Elphin."

*Addressed:* "To the most Reverend Lord F., by the grace of God, Bishop of Teramo and Legate of the Apostolic See; for delivery at Bruges."

*Endorsed:* "Copy of letters from London, sent to Master Falcone at Rome."

[*Copy. Latin,* 1¼ *pages.*]

April 14. **374.** to PIGELLO PORTINARO, [resident at Bruges].*

Sforza Archives, Milan.

The two camps of King Henry and of the new King Edward met near York, about 170 miles hence, and fought a very great battle, which lasted a whole day and a half. At length fortune gave the victory to King Edward: he has, as one may say, annihilated the enemy, amongst whose killed there are reported to be the Earls of Northumberland and Devonshire, Lords de Clifford, de Nevill, de Beaumont, and Welles, Henry of Buckingham, Anthony de Rivers, Lord Scales, Lord de Willoughby (Duelebi); and many knights and gentlemen fell, with a good 20,000 persons. On this other side, it is said, Lord de Serup (John le Scrope?) and Lord de Finath (Fitzwalter?) were killed, with about 8,000 knights and other persons. King Henry, the Queen, and the Prince are said to have fled to Newcastle, 60 miles from York, accompanied by the Dukes of Exeter and Somerset, and by Lords de Ros and de Rivers. King Edward sent 20,000 men to capture them, and it is said the town is already besieged. If they be found there no doubt is entertained by this party of having them at home; but that is quite uncertain, as the town is near the sea. It is supposed that, having found means to embark, they have gone to Scotland or France; in which case they have decided wisely. That party is well nigh destroyed, and King Edward has become master and governor of the whole realm. I am unable to declare how well the commons love and adore him, as if he were their God. The entire kingdom keeps holiday for the event, which seems a boon from above. Thus far he appears to be a just prince, and to mean to amend and organize matters otherwise than has been done hitherto; so all comfort themselves with hopes of future well being. I will acquaint you with any further news. What I have mentioned is the conclusion of all that has occurred down to this day.

[*Copy. Italian,* 2 *pages. The above is taken from a paragraph in a letter, dated London,* 14*th April* 1461.]

* Pigello Portinaro, a Milanese merchant, the agent or partner of Cosmo de' Medici.

1461.
April 17.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**375.** To the LEGATE, Francesco Coppini, BISHOP of TERAMO, from his physician MASTER ANTHONY.

I wrote to your lordship on Monday last the news I found at Bruges concerning the affairs of England. The intelligence is true, and is confirmed hourly, letters having been received to this effect. I have had letters from friends in London, stating the battle commenced on Palm Sunday, at the hour of prime, at Pontefract, and lasted until Tuesday at noon. Between Pontefract and York 30,000 men were killed, King Henry, the Queen, and the Prince being captured; and all the northern Lords (Domini de Boria) are dead, Northumberland and Westmoreland, Clifford, Henry of Buckingham, the Earl of Devonshire, Lord de Ros (Thomas de Ros), Dacre (Ranulph Dacre), Beaumont (William de Beaumont) Lord de Scales (Anthony Widvile), Lord Welles, Huebbi (Willoughby?), Lord Morley; Knights—Harry Bellingham, Andrew Trolop, Ralph Gray, Ralph Percy the bastard, the Duke of Heccestre (*sic*), and the Earl of Wiltshire. Subsequently the King (Edward IV.) assembled all the prelates of the kingdom to decide what should be done with King Henry, the Queen, and the Prince, and with the Duke of Exeter.

These things are true, and you must consider whether you will change your mind about writing; or whether you wish me to go to England with such information and letters as I have already received from you. I think you ought to write to some persons congratulating them on the victory. Let me know what I am to do with the King and the Lords, your friends and well wishers. You must also write to the Duchess of York, and to Nectuñen (Warwick?), as he is good. At this commencement one might perhaps do some good. Send me money for my journey, and to enable me to remain to transact your business. You gave orders for me to receive two nobles; three ducats and a quarter were given me, nor did I discover this until ——, as Thomas knows. They ask a noble for a safeconduct, so I did as your lordship enjoined me. Let me have your orders as to my going with your first letters; or whether you choose to write fresh ones on account of the victory.

The brothers of King Edward are here at Sluys, and tomorrow or Saturday afternoon are to come hither. I have been asked by the English to accompany them as a mark of respect towards these Princes. I shall do so, and offer my services in your name. Concerning what I have done here about the commissions given by your lordship to Thomas, I am certain that he alone and no one else knows that.

Bruges, 17 April, 1461.

*Signed :* "Antonius."

*Inscribed :* "Iste est medicus Dñi Legati qui scribit."

[*Copy. Italian, 3½ pages.*]

April 23.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**376.** FRANCESCO COPPINI, BISHOP OF TERAMO, to GEORGE NEVILL, BISHOP OF EXETER, Lord Chancellor of England.

By this messenger, who is returning, we received your letters. We read in succession the catastrophes and dangers which, after our departure, have visited and desolated that realm; last of all that glorious

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victory which the Lord hath vouchsafed to the noble Edward and the devoted sons of the Church. We remember your vow to serve God and the Pope, and your suggestion to the then Earl of March that he should be alive and doing. Those who threatened to hang us have now wretchedly ended their lives; and it belongs to you to exhort the King (as we do by a letter which we are sending to him) that, as his election and appointment were wonderful, so should he acknowledge the grace from its Author and Lord, rendering due honour to Him who says, "Through me kings do reign." Let him keep his promises to him who rendered himself obnoxious that he might reign. His enemies fell thus marvellously for having stubbornly scorned the Apostolic authority.

What great confusion we were all in! how intense our terror! what gross abuse and insult were heaped on us by the mob when at the last engagement, fatal to your party, we quitted him! At present how great the change! Will communicate more fully when in the King's presence, which will soon be the case. We have transmitted your letter to the Pope, to acquaint him with the truth and with your pious disposition, which will doubtless be to the increase of your estate and glory. Be pleased to recommend us to the King, to whom we have written a few lines, to your brother the Earl (Warwick), to your uncle (Lord de Fauconbridge), and to the rest of your noble house, especially to Lord Montagu, whom we congratulate on having with so much glory escaped twice from the enemy. We are sure to gain the day in their company and in that of the other prelates and lords,* so that they may comprehend that they have accepted a son or brother, of one mind with them;† and this the more especially as they also chose to receive us in their own ranks.‡

We inclose letters from Master Antonio della Torre, the envoy from the King and your party, in date of Milan, showing how high your brother's name stands in Italy. That letter should be sent him with the one we are writing to him; and on our return we will acquaint him with matters relating to his and your estate, which came to our knowledge here. Mechlin, 23 April 1461.

*Signed:* "F. Bishop of Teramo, Legate of the Apostolic see."

P.S. Give credence to Friar Maurice, the bearer, who will supply the deficiencies of this letter.

*Addressed:* "To the most Reverend Lord Bishop of Exeter, Chancellor of England."

[*Copy. Latin, 6 pages.*]

April 27. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**377.** FRANCESCO COPPINI, BISHOP OF TERAMO, to FRANCESCO SFORZA, DUKE OF MILAN.

I sent letters a few days ago by a footman of my own, who was to reach Milan in 12 or 14 days. I now send the copy of letters

* Coppini is evidently alluding here to his awkward position at the court of Rome, and relies wholly for support on the Yorkists.

† He seems to have been naturalized, according to the patent in Rymer, date 4th December 1460, quoted by Ellis, Series 3, vol. i. p. 88.

‡ By qualifying him for an English bishop, &c.

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received from England, and above all from the Chancellor, the Earl of Warwick's brother, and from two other bishops, whereby you will learn the victory gained by the Earl of March, who is made new King, and Warwick, and how destructive the battle was. The loss on both sides amounted to 28,000 men, including 10 of the greatest Lancastrian lords, whilst of this amount only one baron and 800 others were killed on our King's side. Matters tend towards reform, nor was there ever a more auspicious moment for the Pope and your lordship. I am on the way back to England. It remains for Rome to do the needful; all hopes of which rests on your authority. I see things prepared of too glorious a nature, and am neither assisted nor understood.

With these present, there will be letters addressed to Rome for Master Falcone. I write to the Pope, and beg you to forward the whole by a trusty messenger.

By letters from Master Antonio della Torre, dated 4th March, I was informed of what had been ordered there, and answered by the above written messenger, "Non qui incipit, sed qui perseveraverit, salvus erit."

I am today to have an interview with the Dauphin at Brussels, where he is expecting me for a conference about important matters relating to this business. Within three days I shall attend the Council of the Duke (Philip of Burgundy), whence I will write to your lordship. Mechlin, 27 April 1461.

*Signed:* "F. Interamnensis Apostolicæ Sedis Legatus."

Detained until 1st May. And here (at Bruges) I found your letters concerning the mission of Master Antonio della Torre to Rome. We are not asleep here. I am going tomorrow to present myself before the Council of this Duke, where I hope to find Master Prospero. I shall then go to England.

*Addressed:* "To the most illustrious the Lord Duke of Milan."

[*Copy. Latin, 3 pages.*]

April 27. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**378.** Francesco Coppini, Bishop of Teramo, to Checco di Calabria, minister of Francesco Sforza, Duke of Milan.

As we are about to mount on horseback we do not write fully, but you will see what I write to our Duke [about] the glorious victory obtained by our friends in England, the like of which was never heard. We are going thither, in order to arrive whilst the event is fresh, and to follow up our designs. We departed in time to be safe. 28,000 men have been killed in one battle, including 11 of the greatest lords of the other side. I recommend to you the accompanying letters which we are writing to the [Romish] Court, to the Pope and others, addressed to Master Falcone. Our Duke ought to write to England; and we will perhaps send you the list according to our plan. By letters from Master Antonio della Torre we have seen your assiduity and zeal. Mechlin, 27 April 1461.

*Signed:* "Your brother Interamnensis Legatus."

Detained until the 1st May at Bruges. We have received letters from the Duke and from yourself about the coming of Master Antonio

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della Torre. No further reply is needed. Do you now bestir yourselves over there, for here we are not asleep.

*Addressed:* "To the Magnificoe the Lord Cicho de Calabria."

[*Copy. Italian, 1½ page.*]

June 2. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**379.** FRANCESCO COPPINI, BISHOP OF TERAMO, to FRANCESCO SFORZA, DUKE OF MILAN.

Since his last, although affairs there proceed rather slowly, they are as usual favourable to King Edward. Incloses a copy of his letter to the Pope,* that the Duke may become acquainted with the entire state of the western parts, namely, England, France, Scotland, and Flanders. Is awaiting the decision his statement may produce at Rome, his own opinion being that there is a fine opportunity for doing great and important things. The Milanese ambassador departed several days ago, and is he believes near Bruges. Will remain where he is till it be time to cross the sea. Exhorts the Duke not to drop the negotiation commenced by his ambassador, as it is of great importance for the Milanese, it pleasing him the more, as he had a hand in it and made a good beginning with that Lord (Warwick?).

St. Omer, 2nd June 1461.

[*Copy. Italian, 2 pages.*]

June 10. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**380.** THE SAME to THE SAME.

Has met at Antwerp the Milanese envoys Count Lodovico Dallugo and the noble Zenon, who delivered letters of credence from the Duke of Milan, and informed him that they were commissioned to cross over to England, without however alluding to the instructions given to Master Prospero, nor to the matters announced by the Lords in England and by the Bishop himself, and which were likewise intrusted to Master Antonio [Della Torre]. Master Prospero, then at Antwerp, announced the receipt of orders from the Duke to return to Italy after executing his chief commission, but had not yet got the letters requisite for his passage to England. He appears embarrassed and the Bishop is rather annoyed, and requests the Duke to write to him what he is to do. Meanwhile should a favourable opportunity offer for crossing will form such resolve as shall seem most to the honour of the Duke; most especially having already notified to the King and Warwick what is aforesaid, lest those Lords take offence. That Lord (the Duke of Burgundy?) hopes Prospero's chief commission will be executed agreeably; and approves of the intention of crossing alluded to by the Bishop. As I am trustworthy concerning affairs in these parts, by reason of my knowledge of those of Italy, and especially of your duchy, it would be advantageous for you always to have an envoy in that kingdom and in these parts. Provided we lack not support from Rome, you will witness things of importance and much to your satisfaction.

Antwerp, 10 June 1461,

[*Copy, Italian, 2 pages.*]

* The enclosure does not exist.

1461.
June 14.. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**381.** FRANCESCO SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN, to KING EDWARD IV.

After the receipt of your Majesty's letters by Lord Antonio della Torre, your servant and envoy, we learnt quite recently from Prospero Camulio, our servant, the memorable victory whereby, through consummate military skill and personal valour, your Majesty obtained that kingdom of England, annexing it to your dominions.

We have always been anxious for your glory and exaltation, as you will have heard from the said Prospero (..... eo Prospero debuit ..... accepisse).

We have declared our joy to Lord Antonio della Torre, who is now returning to your Majesty. Vouchsafe credence to him touching this matter, the good will of the Pontiff, and the state of Italian affairs.

[*Copy. Latin*, 1 *page.*]

June 14. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**382.** FRANCESCO SFORZA, DUKE OF MILAN, to FRANCESCO COPPINI, BISHOP OF TERAMO, Apostolic Legate.

We have received your lordship's letters of the 8th ult. from St. Omer, about your return to England. We will write to Prospero Camuglio, our servant, to accompany you. We suppose that Prospero will have followed you. Master Antonio della Torre is now returning to those parts, fully informed as to the Pope's excellent disposition towards you, and the condition of Italy. We request to be kept constantly acquainted with the affairs of that kingdom.

Milan, 14 June 1461.

[*Copy. Italian*, 1 *page.*]

July 9. Senato Mar. v. vii. p. 25.

**383.** DOGE PASQUAL MALIPIERO to the CAPTAIN of the FLANDERS GALLEYS.

Informs him of an announcement made to the Duke of Burgundy about sending the galleys to Sluys rather than to Antwerp, on certain conditions. Desires the captain to take all the galleys to Hampton, and there dismiss the London galley for London, and on his return from Flanders to reassemble the squadron at Hampton.

Ayes, 9.

Amendment to the foregoing letter, desiring the captain to confer with the Venetian consul at Sluys. If the captain think it unsafe for one of the galleys to remain alone at Hampton, he may do as he deems best for its security. Should he determine on remaining in Hampton, all the spices loaded for Bruges are to be put on board the two other galleys, under penalty of 1,000 ducats.

Ayes, 92. Noes, 5. Neutrals, 13.

[*Latin, letter and amendment*, 33 *lines.*]

Aug. 28. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**384.** GIOVANNI PIETRO CAGNOLLA, of Lodi, to FRANCESCO SFORZA, DUKE OF MILAN.

By my letter, dated London, the last day of July, I acquainted you with what was passing in England. The Earl of Warwick has gone towards Yorkshire, a province opposed to that King, and very friendly to King Henry. I believe it will submit to King

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Edward, considering that favour fails King Henry on every side, and seeing at their backs the Earl of Warwick, who does them great mischief, and but for whom those people would have joined King Henry and taken the field again; but Warwick has prevented this, nor can they now succour the King or do any thing further.

King Edward is going towards Wales, where King Henry and the Queen now are, from fear of their doing something, as they would have done, but for the death of the King of France, as the Duke of Somerset had already crossed to this side of the Channel, to lead the French troops to the camp in Wales; 20,000 men having been mustered for this expedition, and on the said Duke's arrival at a town called Eu, news came of the said King's death, and so the Duke of Somerset was stayed, and remains at the disposal of the new King of France.

Tomorrow morning we depart hence on our return to Antwerp to another fair, which commences on 8th September, as the Count purposes buying some good horses for you, and then seems inclined to visit the King of France and the Duke of Burgundy, who are in Paris, as he says he promised them this when he went to England.

Bruges, 28 August 1461.

*Signed:* "Johannes Petrus Cagnolla de Laude."

[*Copy. Italian,* 1½ *page.*]

Aug. 30. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**385.** [Count Ludovico Dallugo] to Francesco Sforza, Duke of Milan.

I have returned from England, having announced my journey thither by a former letter. I was well received, and as much honour was done me as possible by the King and the lords and gentlemen of his court. All the Italian merchants in London who came to visit me, Venetians, Genoese, and Florentines, told me that at no time was so much honour paid to any embassy. King Edward loves you as if you were his father. I repeatedly asked the King's good leave to come away, and always by fair words he made me delay, taking me every day to his castles and chases. On my departure he came from London as far as Sandwich, the passage seaport, a distance of seventy miles, visiting (on the way) his towns, whose inhabitants bear him so much love, that they adore him like a God, so that his affairs proceed from good to better daily. The lords adherent to King Henry are all quitting him, and come to tender obedience to this King, and at this present, one of the chief of them has come, by name Lord de Rivers, with one of his sons (Richard de Widvile Lord Rivers), men of very great valour. I held several conversations with this Lord de Rivers about King Henry's cause and what he thought of it, and he answered me that the cause was lost irremediably. King Henry has withdrawn himself to a country called Wales, belonging to a brother of his by the mother's side; which country is on the borders of England towards Scotland, a sterile place, and but little productive. Had it abounded in provisions, King Edward would have marched to drive him out, but he has now determined to wait until after the harvest, as it will supply him with victuals.

I have purchased nine very handsome hackneys, all white, though they are rather young. We could not get any others by reason of these wars, and what with our rough passage across, and the em-

1461.

barkation and disembarkation, they were a little frightened, so I have brought them here to Bruges and will let them rest awhile.

On my departure from Milan, you commissioned me on my way to England to speak on the subject to Monsieur the Dauphin, now King, and to the Duke of Burgundy, and to do as they recommended me. They advised me to go, and when I quitted them, asked me to see them on my return. Owing to this present revolution at Genoa, I have remained here a short time, but am recommended to go; so I shall depart tomorrow morning, and visit their lordships in Paris, and enquire whether they have any commands for your lordship. After which I shall move homewards, and try whether at the fair of Antwerp or in these other towns I can find a few good horses for you; to whom I recommend myself, as also to my mother-in-law and to Count Galeazzo.

Bruges, 30 August. *Signature illegible* [? Ludovico Dallugo].

[*Copy. Italian, 3½ pages.*]

Sept. 23. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**386.** FRANCESCO COPPINI, BISHOP of TERAMO, Apostolic Legate, to FRANCESCO SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

I wrote back lately by your lordship's courier, Baptista, in full, sending memorials and all requisite information, and informing you of the excellent disposition towards you and your duchy of this King. I hope that already you have heard the like through Master Prospero. Matters are settling themselves and mending constantly; also since the arrival of the Pope's Legate, Monsignor Attrebatense, who has been received and acknowledged by this King.

As the Pope wishes to make some agreement between these two Kings, and as he of England daily shows, and most especially by the inclosed letter from Master Antonio della Torre, that my presence [there] would be agreeable to him; it has seemed fit to Monsignor Attrebatense that I should go over there, now that the things are warm, to give some beginning to the said agreement. Before the arrival of your ambassadors I shall have returned, for in a month at the farthest I shall dispatch my business, as the passage is open and safe for me, on the part of either King.

Yesterday after the reception of the said Legate, whilst I was talking with the King, he told me to see in detail what I wanted of him as a proof of his favour and grace towards me; and this chanced on account of past events, and because the King his father (Charles VII.) made a demonstration complaining of me heretofore, of which he perhaps disapproved. Thus, thank God, all is well, should they do the like over there (at Rome).

During this interval, I leave one of my attendants with the said Legate, for whatever may occur; and his lordship will give me one of his own people, that he may the more easily transmit advices concerning what is necessary. Write to the King, to the Duke (of Burgundy) and to me.

Paris, 23 September 1461.

*Signed:* "Friar Bishop of Teramo, Legate of the Apostolic See."

*Addressed:* "To the Lord Francesco Sforza Visconti, Duke of Milan," &c.

[*Copy. Italian, 2 pages.*]

1462.
Jan. 26. Senato Mar. v. vii. p. 43.

**387.** DOGE PASQUAL MALIPIERO to the CAPTAIN of the FLANDERS GALLEYS.

Orders him to hasten his return and to do all he can to the like effect with the master of the London galley.

[*Latin*, 9 *lines*.]

Jan. 26. Senato Mar. v. vii. p. 43.

**388.** DOGE PASQUAL MALIPIERO to the VICECAPTAIN of the LONDON GALLEY.

Commands him with all possible diligence to hasten the dispatch of the galley intrusted to him. Has transmitted a similar command to the captain of the galleys, desiring him to return with the vice-captain's galley and all others according to the auction contract. Unless this mandate be fully obeyed, the Doge will make over those who may be the cause of such omission to the State attorneys.

[*Latin*, 9 *lines*.]

March 9. Senato Mar. v. vii. p. 50.

**389.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

[*Latin*, 259 *lines*.]

1463.
March 12. Senato Mar. v. vii. p. 109.

**390.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage.

Amendment proposing the mission of a fifth galley.

[*Latin*, 222 *lines*.]

April 14. In the Library of the Venetian Archives. Miscell. No. 51.

**391.** PROTEST of a BILL of EXCHANGE for 150 ducats.

Drawn at Venice on 11th January 1463 by Fortin Dandolo, at usance, in favour of Marin Dandolo and Francesco Dandolo, and on them, at the exchange of 47*d.* per ducat.

According to the billbroker, Christian of Bologna, then residing in London, the ducat there was worth 41*d.* sterling and eight "met" (*sic*).

Attestation of the Notary.

[*The bill in Italian, the body of the document in Latin. Parchment*, 18 *lines*.]

April 15. In the Library of the Venetian Archives. Miscell. No. 51.

**392.** PROTEST of a BILL of EXCHANGE for 150 ducats.

Drawn at Venice on 6th January 1463 by Fortin Dandolo, at usance, in favour of Paulo de' Priuli and on him.

According to the billbroker, Christian of Bologna, the ducat was worth 41*d.* sterling and eight "met" (*sic*). Then follows the notarial attestation.

[*The bill in Italian, the rest of the document in Latin. Parchment*, 18 *lines*.]

1464.
Feb. 24. Senato Mar. v. vii. p. 150.

**393.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Bernardo Giustinian, consul of their merchants in London, announces that the factory there is so burdened with debts, that unless a speedy remedy be applied, it must relapse into its former difficulties.—Put to the ballot, that cloths and other English merchandise exported by Venetian merchants, either in their own

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names or in the names of aliens in Venetian galleys or ships, from any place soever, for Spain, Barbary, Majorca, and Italy, do pay fivepence for every pound sterling to the factory, in like manner as paid by goods imported into Venice from England. By these means the quota will be easily liquidated. The consul is empowered to fine both the merchants and masters of the galleys should they load or receive merchandise which has not paid this quota. The act to come into force on the next voyage.

[*Latin*, 19 *lines.*]

Feb. 24. Senato Mar. v. vii. p. 156.

**394.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage.

The two London galleys to be dismissed as usual on making the coast of England.

[*Latin*, 229 *lines.*]

Oct. 5. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**395.** NEWS LETTER from Bruges.

Some Venetian merchants have arrived from London, which they left on the 26th September. They say the plague is at work there, at the rate of 200 per diem, and thus writes Carlo Ziglio. They also say that the marriage of King Edward will be celebrated shortly, but without stating where; it seems that the espousals and benediction are already over, and thus has he determined to take the daughter of my Lord de Rivers, a widow with two children, having long loved her, it appears. The greater part of the lords and the people in general seem very much dissatisfied at this, and for the sake of finding means to annul it, all the peers are holding great consultations in the town of Reading, where the King is. This Council will likewise discuss the affair of the new coinage, which the King is having made, one-fourth lighter than the old, and wills it to be of the same currency as the other; at this the people murmur, and are dissatisfied. The writer does not know whether the Earl of Warwick and Carlo Ziglio [Chiarenza, for Duke of Clarence?] are there, nor do the merchants who have come from London say any thing about them.

The Count de Charolois is in Holland, and daily expected at Ghent, according to report. He is said to have caused the arrest of a bastard, Rubeinpre (*sic*), who with two comrades landed from an armed caravel at Gorcum. Much is said about this matter; over there you will have heard of it, being nearer the source.

Bruges, 5 October 1464.

[*Copy. Italian*, 1½ *page.*]

1465.

March 28. Senato Mar. v. viii. p. 17.

**396.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

General regulations as formerly.

The presents sent by the officials of the Accountants' Office to the King of England and the Duke of Burgundy to be paid with the first money derived from averages, namely, half on arrival and half on the return, in like manner as the masters of the arsenal are paid.

[*Latin*, 237 *lines.*]

1465.
Sept. 9.

**397.** Doge Christoforo Moro and the Senate to Edward IV.

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxii. p. 115.

Had been gratified by his Majesty's letters of the 25th July touching what had been done by the Venetian fleet against the Isle of Rhodes, and urging the State to obtain satisfaction. Thank the King, and lay before him the origin of these hostilities.

"It is the ancient custom of the State to send annually some of its galleys on a trading voyage to Barbary. In the present year the Republic's said galleys, after quitting Alexandria, touched at Rhodes as customary; on board were many Moorish merchants, with their merchandise of no small value, whom it had been necessary to receive, lest, in addition to the burdensome war now being waged with Mahomet II., the Republic should also excite the wrath of the Soldan (Abousaid Khoschkadam), it being known to the State that Mahomet had sent ambassadors to him, proposing that he should attack her."

Before our galleys entered the harbour of Rhodes, the Grand Master (Pedro Raimondo Zacosta) made a hostile attack on the galleys of the State with several of his own galleys and other armed ships. Many of our subjects were wounded, some killed; our galleys were given up to plunder, and all the Moors, together with their effects, were seized and imprisoned, the Grand Master showing himself inflexible to all our prayers in their favour.

When the circumstance became known in Syria and Egypt our noblemen, citizens, and merchants in those parts, with much property belonging to our subjects, were by the Soldan's order cruelly seized and taken in irons to Cairo, miserably kept in harsh captivity, and threatened with death, it being asserted that the seizure of the Moors had taken place by our means. We of necessity ordered our captain-general on the sea against the Turk to go with the fleet to Rhodes to redeem the Moors, and to attempt all means in preference to the sword.

We cannot pass over in silence that the Grand Master, professing himself the defender of the faith, is indeed of a contrary disposition, and by means of an embassy has entered upon an agreement with the Turk.

Our fleet went to Rhodes; during three consecutive days, by letters, messengers, and ambassadors, our captain-general left nothing untried to induce the Grand Master to surrender the Moors and their property by fair means, but he, instigated by incredible obstinacy and avarice, contrary moreover to the advice of many of his comrades, would do nothing whatever. At length, when the captain-general of our fleet resorted to other remedies, everything was arranged by mutual agreement and compromise, the Moors being released, and such property as could be found restored. If, perchance, in consequence of the landing of our forces, anything disagreeable to your Majesty was done, we regret it.

Although the Moors reached their homes, the release of our subjects and their property will not take place without very heavy expenditure. We have therefore sent a formal embassy to the Soldan, and doubtless, according to the Barbary fashion, we shall need a considerable sum of money to exempt our subjects, and can

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affirm with truth that the damage done us will exceed the sum of many thousand ducats.

Your Majesty will judge how grievous all these things are; and for the truth of our just remonstrance we have sent this letter, considering it very certain that if the Lord Prior of England had received the true account of this circumstance he would have abstained from making any complaint against our subjects. Nay, had he been in Rhodes at that time, everything would have been pacifically arranged by means of his habitual wisdom, authority, and ability.

**398.** Doge Christoforo Moro and the Senate to the Lord Robert Prior of St. John's of Jerusalem in England.

To the same effect as the preceding.

Similar letters were written to the Earl of Warwick; to the Reverend Lord Brother John Langstrother, most worthy Precepter of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

Ayes, 120. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin*, 76 *lines.*]

1466.

May 1.
Senato Mar. v. viii. p. 70.

**399.** Decree of the Senate for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage, namely, The Pesara of London, The Pesara of Bruges, and two galleys.

General regulations. Of the two London galleys one, either by agreement, or by lot to be drawn before quitting Venice, is bound to come by the coast of Barbary, having first of all loaded in England fine and other cloths and goods for Barbary, with the exception of copper and tin, and of copper and tin manufactures, under penalty of 500 ducats to each of the masters, of losing the freight, and of privation for ten years of the mastership of any galleys; one third of the fine to go to the informer, one third to the State attorneys, and one third to the Signory.

[*Latin*, 257 *lines.*]

Aug. 6.

**400.** Protest of a Bill of Exchange for 420 ducats.

In the Library of the Venetian Archives. Miscell. No. 51.

Drawn at Venice on 28th April 1466 by Francesco Daoxnago, at usance, on Francesco Guidicioni, at the exchange of 50*d.* per ducat. The billbroker, Manfredi de Nochj, certified to the notary that in London, on 29th July 1466, when the bill became due, the Venetian ducat was worth 46½*d.*

[*The bill in Italian, the rest of the document in Latin. Parchment*, 30 *lines.*]

Sept. 2.

**401.** Decree of the Senate.

Senato Mar. v. viii. p. 92.

That a letter be written to London, suspending the brokers, Thomas Spendi and Christopher Marchio, at the request made on behalf of Michael Pizamano and Lorenzo Contarini; nor may any Venetian subjects deal with them until they pay their legal debt, under penalty of paying the debt themselves.

[*Latin*, 10 *lines.*]

1467.
March 21.
Senato Mar. v. viii. p. 111.

**402.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Of the cost of the two western couriers, one half is paid by the London factory and the other half by the Bruges factory; who, although bound to deliver the Bruges letters at Bruges, and those of London in London, contrary to their obligation do not take the London letters to London, but leave them at Bruges, very much to the inconvenience of the London merchants.—Put to the ballot, that the said couriers shall not leave the letters of the London merchants at Bruges, but take them to London, under penalty of 25 ducats each and privation from office.

Ayes, 112. Noes, 3. Neutrals, 1.

[*Latin*, 9 *lines*.]

March 21.
Senato Mar. v. viii. p. 116.

**403.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders and London voyage.

General regulations.

[*Latin*, 250 *lines*.]

April 18.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**404.** EMMANUEL DE JACOPO and GIOVANNI PIETRO PANICHAROLLA to GALEAZZO MARIA SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

The King of France has told us in secret that he wishes you to be acquainted with the course of his affairs, accounting you his brother and especial friend, and knowing us to be faithful. Although the negotiation be secret he chose to announce the whole to us, charging us and requesting you to keep it secret.

The King has a secret understanding with King Edward of England through the Earl of Warwick, and they have agreed, that between this and the eighth of next May the said Earl is to be with his Majesty, who has already sent him an ample safeconduct, with a fitting mandate, to conclude everything. They are already agreed for the most part, thus—King Edward and the King of France henceforth and for ever become brothers in arms; perpetual peace is made between the kingdoms of England and France; and King Edward will quit and renounce all right, claim, and title on the kingdom of France. The French King will give him his second daughter for the second brother of King Edward, (the elder brother being married to the daughter of the said Earl,) giving as dowry part of the territory of the Duke of Burgundy and of the Count of Charolois, on whom they have agreed to wage a war of extermination; and they will partition between them the territory of those two lords as follows: King Edward to have for his said brother the lordship of Holland, Zeland, and Brabant; his Majesty of France taking Verno [*sic* for Verdun ?] the county of Flanders, and the rest of their dominions. To thwart any understanding Charolois might have with the English, and to alienate him entirely, as he purposed marrying King Edward's sister, they are treating a marriage between her and Philip of Savoy. For the conclusion of this matter, although he pretends to be on his way to Paris, he will go to Rouen, there to meet the Earl of Warwick and the brother of the Count de St. Pol. After the settlement of this agreement, they will commence the war against the said Lords of Burgundy, who have sought to expel his Majesty; and although at the commence-

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ment he forgave what Charolois had done, by giving him his daughter, yet has his Majesty sought constantly to ruin him, being of opinion that, with his own forces and with the assistance of Philip of Savoy, the Switzers of Berne, the people of Liege, and the English, they will commence such a war that the Duke of Burgundy and Charolois will be unable to withstand the shock.

Should this succeed, King Lewis says he will desire the Duke of Britanny to send him his brother the Duke de Berri, whose escape from Britanny he is nevertheless endeavouring to effect, by means of certain negotiations with the Spanish ambassadors here; and he doubts not but that the said ambassadors will send him for fear of losing their substance; if not, he will fit shoes to their feet. The King wishes to demonstrate his gratitude for the service you have rendered him, and says that for concluding this negotiation King Edward had written him an autograph letter, and never did the like until now.

Blois, 18 April 1467.

*Signed:* "Emmanuel de Jacopo-Johannes Petrus Panicharolla."

*Addressed:* "To the most Illustrious Prince and most Excellent Lord, the Lord Galeaz Maria Sforza Visconti, Duke of Milan."

[*Copy. Italian, 5 pages.*]

May 5.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**405.** GIOVANNI PIETRO PANICHAROLLA to the DUCHESS and DUKE of MILAN.

The Marquis de Pont (*sic*), son of the Duke John, has quitted Nanci in Lorraine, and is gone to visit his aunt, late Queen of England, who has also withdrawn into Lorraine with a son of hers, aged thirteen, having no other place of refuge. She is subsequently to come and reside here at the Court.

Chartres, 5 May 1467.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

July 28.
Senato Mar. v. viii. p. 136.

**406.** MOTIONS made in the SENATE in consequence of a letter from the captain of the Flanders galleys, proposing to anticipate the period of his departure on the homeward voyage.

Put to the ballot, that on the arrival in London of the messenger with the present letters, the consul there do summon the masters of the galleys, and inquire whether they are willing to depart before the period assigned by their auction contract. If they consent, the captain is bound to depart ten days after.

Ayes, 10.

First amendment:—That on the expiration of the month of August next the captain do quit Hampton on his way back to Venice.

Ayes, 36, 32, 22, 7.

Second amendment:—That the London consul be bound to assemble the Council of Twelve, should the galleys be at Hampton on the arrival of the said messenger; if that number of noblemen be not on the spot, the commons and the priors to have admission into the Council. Should the galleys not yet have reached that place, their arrival to be awaited. Whatsoever three fourths of the

Council enjoin about the return of the galleys, the captain to be bound to execute, provided the departure do not take place within ten days after the arrival of the messenger.

Ayes, 2.

Third amendment:—That the captain of the Flanders galleys be written to, should he arrive in Hampton in the course of July down to the middle of August, to remain there the whole of August. If he arrive there after the middle of that month, 15 days to be assigned him for his stay there.

Ayes, 35, 55, 65, 83.

[*Latin*, 20 *lines.*]

Aug. 12.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxiii. p. 60.

**407.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning announcements made by the Bishop of Tournai, a prelate on his way to Rome as ambassador from the new Duke of Burgundy (Charles the Bold).

Said that his Duke's friendship and alliance had been sought by many potentates and princes; that he had concluded a league with four of the Electors of the Empire. Also, that there was a close negotiation, with the hope of conclusion, for his making a marriage with the sister of the King of England. Exhorts the Signory to send an embassy of congratulation to the Duke on his accession.

Election of an ambassador to this effect.

Ayes, 98.

[*Latin*, 24 *lines.*]

Sept. 12.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**408.** GIOVANNI PIETRO PANICHAROLLA to the DUCHESS and DUKE of MILAN.

This King's ambassadors have lately returned from England; and the Earl of Warwick having met with many opponents to his plan, they found him unable to effect what he had promised on his departure. They are therefore returned without any positive settlement: nor are matters adjusted between the English King, who seems very averse to France, and Warwick; they are constantly at strife. The Welshmen have taken up arms against King Edward, and proclaim Henry, whose next brother, late resident here, is going over there, and the late Queen is sending him some of her followers to make their party take the field if possible. King Lewis complains bitterly that the Earl of Warwick has made so many promises devoid of any result. According to report, the Earl has retired to his estates to raise troops.

The King of Castile (Henry IV., the Impotent,) has had an ambassador in England and concluded a league with King Edward, which has been proclaimed, both parties accepting and reserving place for the King of Arragon (John II.) and Duke of Burgundy (Charles the Bold).

Paris, 12 September 1467.

*Signed:* "Johannes Petrus Panicharolla."

*Addressed:* "Dñis Ducisse ac Duci Mediolani."

[*Extract, Italian.*]

1468.

Jan. 28. Senato Mar. v. viii. p. 151.

**409.** DECREE of the SENATE, caused by news of the arrival at Sluys on 10th December of the Flanders galleys, with the exception of the Flag galley.

Should the captain in consequence be detained at Sluys beyond the period assigned by the auction contract, the captains and masters to be at liberty, if, on arriving at Hampton on the homeward voyage, they find the London galley in readiness, to depart before the expiration of the days assigned them, though the captain must not remain in Hampton less than 20 days. This decree to be announced to the consul at Bruges.

Ayes, 121. Noes, 5. Neutrals, 7.

[*Latin*, 15 *lines.*]

Feb. 13. Senato Mar. v. viii. p. 156.

**410.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage.

General regulations.

[*Latin*, 282 *lines.*]

March 12. Senato Mar. v. viii. p. 163.

**411.** DECREE of the SENATE.

As no notice has yet been received of the arrival in Flanders of the galley of Luca Moro, captain of the galleys on that voyage, this delay renders it necessary to provide for the mode of dispatching the said galleys.—Put to the ballot, that the masters of the galleys at Sluys be at liberty to go to Hampton, there to await their captain; for in the meanwhile they may see to expediting the departure of their galleys.

Ayes, 135. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 2.

[*Latin*, 8 *lines.*]

April 20. Senato Mar. v. viii. p. 167.

**412.** DOGE CRISTOFORO MORO to "Ser" LUCA MORO, Captain of the Flanders galleys.

Limited the period of his stay over there, on the expiration of which he was to depart thence. Supposes he has executed this command and gone to England; but if he still be in Flanders, which the Doge cannot believe, commands him to depart thence without delay.

Ayes, 119. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian*, 6 *lines.*]

May 19. Senato Mar. v. viii. p. 171.

**413.** DOGE CRISTOFORO MORO to "Ser" LUCA MORO, Captain of the Flanders galleys.

On the 5th instant it was resolved in the Council of the Senate to write to him, as he will see by the accompanying letter. Subsequently heard that the London galley, which has for master Marco Justinian, is disarmed, and were it to quit that port in its present state, without taking its complement of men, it would incur manifest peril. Regrets this, considering the importance of the galley, and the great loss which in case of accident would befall the Venetian citizens whose property is on board of it. Commands him therefore, should he be at Bruges, to hire there from 25 to 30 men, and take them with him to Hampton. On reaching that place he

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is to draft from the galleys then with him as many men as he deems sufficient, and send them by land to the above written Justiniana galley in London, so that it may betake itself to him at Hampton. On its arrival he is to send back the men to their own galleys, and to place on board the said galley the 25 or 30 hired at Bruges, by all means contriving to take the rest of the men required at Hampton, and manning it with as many different nations as possible. He is to take the money required for manning the galley, if the master will not disburse it, by bill of exchange, and at the risk of the galley's freights, making the primage and freights from Sicily and Barbary accountable for it likewise. Should he, however, not be at Bruges, but in England, he must send from the galleys with him to the Giustiniana galley such amount [of hands] as seems fit.

Moreover, on the 30th ult., wrote to him that if he had not yet quitted Flanders for England, to go thither immediately. Repeats this command.

Ayes, 153. Noes, 1. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian*, 40 *lines*.]

June 16. **414.** GIOVANNI PIETRO PANICHAROLLA to the DUKE of MILAN.

Sforza Archives, Milan. The betrothal of the sister of the King of England to the Duke of Burgundy has been settled, but not carried into effect. The espousals have recently been postponed until the 24th inst., as the dower, to be derived from a tax on the towns of the kingdom, has not yet been paid. That King is a poor man, nor can he, save with difficulty and time, raise any large sum, especially as he has of late laid another tax on the lords, barons, and towns of the kingdom, for the maintenance of the forces now being raised against France, which could not be kept on foot otherwise. So it is suspected that the marriage will again be deferred, in which case it will perhaps never take place. Should the said Duke have a conference with the King Lewis, that King will do his utmost to break this family connection; such being his Majesty's intention.

The Admiral of France, having recently captured two English ships loaded with spices and merchandise on their homeward voyage from the Levant, was attacked by a seacaptain in the service of the King of Spain, who captured him and took the said ships. When the Frenchman demanded release, as the King of France was not at war with Spain, the Spaniards told him not to think of it, as he would do this and worse if in his power, reminding him of the reprisals granted against the Spaniards, and of their property which had been taken by the French. On this account it is suspected that the Spaniards have an understanding with the English, and that together they mean to fit out a combined fleet against this kingdom. In this case it will be requisite to form fresh plans, but as yet there is no further certainty of this.

"Ex Castro Bri-Conte Robech [Brie-Comte-Robert?] prope Parisiis, die xvi. mensis Junij 1468."

*Signed.*

*Addressed:* "Duci Mediolani."

[*Extract, Italian.*]

1468.
Sept. 9.
In the Library of the Venetian Archives. Miscell. No. 51.

**415.** PROTEST of a BILL OF EXCHANGE for 100 ducats.

Drawn at Venice on 4th June 1468, by Zuane Gradenigo, at usance, on Toma Mocenigo and Bernardo Justiniano, to be paid to themselves. The billbroker Manfred de Nochj declared that in London, on the 5th September 1468, the ducat was worth 49*d.*

[*The bill in Italian, the rest of the document in Latin. Parchment, 27 lines.*]

1469.
March 3.
Senato Mar. v. viii. p. 202.

**416.** DECREE of the SENATE for fitting out four galleys for the Flanders voyage.

[*Latin, 34 lines.*]

June 19.
Senato Mar. v. ix. p. 10.

**417.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Doubts expressed in letters from the captain of the Flanders galleys lest he be prevented returning at the time stipulated by his auction contract, as the masters do not speed the loading of the galleys as due.—Put to the ballot, to write to the viceconsul in London, desiring him to charge the master of the galley there and the merchants to hasten the dispatch of the said galley to the utmost, so that at the period assigned it depart thence and join its captain. Urgent orders to the viceconsul to effect this, and to the captain to impress the like on the masters of the other galleys.

Ayes, 131. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 3.

[*Latin, 14 lines.*]

July 10.
Senato Mar. v. ix. p. 12.

**418.** DOGE CHRISTOPHER MORO to the CAPTAIN of the Flanders galleys.

Understands that the galley bound for the Barbary coast will not have any cargo for Barbary, though it can obtain freight for Venice if it come with the others. Is most willing to accommodate the merchants and the masters at the same time. Therefore commands him to write to the consul in London to assemble the Venetian merchants, and learn whether there is any freight for Barbary. If there be none, and the masters of the galleys be of this mind, absolves the said galley from the obligation of coming by the coast. It may return with the captain to Venice. Charges him to depart thence at the period assigned him.

Ayes, 137. Noes, 4. Neutrals, 3.

[*Italian, 12 lines.*]

July 20.
Senato Mar. v. ix. p. 13.

**419.** DECREE of the SENATE.

By letters from Marco de Cà de Pesaro, consul in London, and merchants of Bruges and London, it is known that the pirate Columbus, with eight ships and bellingers, is in the Flemish channel, there awaiting the Venetian galleys and ships with intent to damage them; and should the ships come singly, the mischief might not be limited to mere damage.—Put to the ballot, that the consul in Bruges and London be written to, to order the captains of Venetian ships in those regions to betake themselves with their vessels to the captain of the Flanders galleys, remaining under his command, and accompanying him until he be out of danger from the said pirate.

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Should it behove the ships to await the galleys, be an average made to defray the cost of their demurrage, payable thus: one third by the goods, freight, and tonnage of our ships, according to rate, and two thirds by the merchants and freights of the said galleys.

[*Latin*, 16 *lines*.]

Oct. 26. **420.** PROTEST of a BILL of EXCHANGE for 200 ducats.

In the Library of the Venetian Archives. Miscell. No. 51. Drawn at Venice on 27th June 1469, by Hieronimo Scoto, at usance, on Stoldo Altoviti.

The billbroker Manfred de Nequis (*sic*) declared that the Venetian ducat was then worth in London 49¾*d*.

[*Italian and Latin. Parchment*, 25 *lines*.]

Nov. 20. **421.** SFORZA DE' BETTINI to the DUKE of MILAN.

Sforza Archives, Milan. From England one never has one thing like another, but always more dissimilar than the day is to the night.

The latest intelligence received thence by the King of France is that the Earl of Warwick had gone northwards to take possession of the castles and estates of those lords whom he caused to be beheaded, and was accompanied by the King of England who went about at large, taking his pleasure hunting, where he pleased. Being one day in the country, the King started off for London and entered that city, where he was received very willingly and kingly. He seems to be much loved by the Londoners, who detest the said Earl; and there he is endeavouring to raise as great a force as he can against Warwick.

The person who announces this to King Lewis implies that King Edward has already a large army, which, he says, has deserted Warwick, [consisting of] lords and military commanders who have gone to join the King, and that the Earl and the Duke of Clarence are mustering all the men they can, meaning to go in quest of him and fight a fresh battle. If this is true, the Earl has proved himself utterly ignorant of the Italian adage: The man who should not be bound should not be loosed.*

King Lewis has stayed the departure from Normandy of Mons. de Concressault,† who was going over to the Earl of Warwick, until he knows what end the affairs of England may make.

The King of England has received the Order of the Fleece from the Duke of Burgundy as an additional mark of the union and confederacy between them.

Tours, 20 November 1469.

*Signed:* "Sfortia de Bettini."

*Addressed:* "Domino Duci Mediolani."

[*Extract, Italian.*]

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* In the original, "Che chi non è da pigliare non è da lassare."

† John Stuart, Lord of Aubigny and Concressault in France, was the younger brother of Sir Alan Stuart, of Derneley, and the father of the renowned Bernard Stuart, Chevalier d'Aubigny, so gallantly distinguished by his martial achievements in the service of France during the campaigns in Italy against Gonsalvo de Cordova. (*See* Burke's Extinct Peerages, ed. 1846, p. 746.)

1469.
Nov. 25. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxiv. p. 67.

**422.** Doge Cristoforo Moro and the Senate to the Venetian Consul in London.

Received his letter of the 29th ultimo about the garboil to which he has been subjected by William Cooper and Zuan Bruzexe [John Bridges ?]. Regrets the trouble thus given him; and, in accordance with the opinion of the merchants over there, is writing to the King [of England] and to the lords noted in his memorandum. Encloses a copy of the letters,* in which the King is informed how the capture of that ship on its way from Constantinople occurred; and, by the arguments in it, the consul will be able to defend his case, till the Doge can give him a more detailed account of everything. He is to present the accompanying letters. In the meanwhile the Doge will contrive to have breves from the Pope to the King and those lords; and he will write to Burgundy to his ambassador to obtain letters of favour from the Duke to the said King, which he hopes will profit the consul, by reason of the matrimonial alliance between them. Will send him the process, juridicially drawn up, and the breves.

Were it possible to make a compromise with the Englishmen it would be agreeable, for the avoidance of costs, extortion, and other inconvenience. He is to endeavour to compromise the matter with the above written, offering them by degrees 1,000 ducats, in satisfaction for the damage and loss which they say they have incurred through the capture of the said ship. This decree to be kept secret to himself.

[*Italian*, 21 *lines*.]

Dec. 8. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**423.** Sforza de' Bettini to the Duke of Milan.

No other news from England, save that the King is still said to be very well reestablished, and the war between the said King and Earl of Warwick is greater than ever.

Monsieur de Concressault yet tarries in Normandy without proceeding further till the result of affairs in England be known.

Tours, 8 December 1469.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

1470.
Feb. 21. Senato Mar. v. ix. p. 33.

**424.** Decree of the Senate.

The case of those Englishmen and of the native of Messina, who suffered loss on board the ship intercepted by the Venetian fleet, was referred to the Sages of the Council and of the main land. From what it has been possible to understand hitherto, the loss of the Englishmen amounts to about 2,000 ducats.—Put to the ballot, that on completion of the process, and after taking all such information and declarations as shall be deemed necessary, the said Sages do proceed to the sentence and settlement of both these suits for the damages aforesaid—what indemnity should be given, whether to the Englishmen or the native of Messina. But with regard to

* This letter from the State to Edward IV. does not exist in any of the registers.

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making effective compensation to both parties, be a report then made to this Council.

Ayes, 118. Noes, 4. Neutrals, 7.

[*Latin*, 8 *lines.*]

March 5. **425.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. ix. p. 35.

There have come hither those two Englishmen who were on board the ship, Andrea de' Neapoli master, captured by our fleet; and who, aggrieved by their loss, caused the seizure in England of property belonging to our subjects to the amount of 12,000 ducats, seeking indemnity by letters of recommendation from the King. The College having examined the process drawn up by the Venetian captain, another drawn up at Scio, which the Englishmen presented, and a third process made out here, it is very clear from these that the Englishmen, by their demand for 12,000 ducats, have wandered far from fair dealing, as it is proved that their loss amounted but to 2,000 ducats; for which sum they made an agreement with the Genoese ambassador, who caused the capture of the ship.—Put to the ballot, that after justifying the rights of the Signory, and explaining the reasons for which no satisfaction from them is deserved, it be said that nevertheless, out of complaisance for the King of England, we are content to pay the Englishmen 2,000 ducats, according to the agreement made by themselves with the said Genoese; and that we will also cause them to receive 100 ducats. The payment of these moneys to be made on their accepting them as full indemnity for the whole.

Ayes, 150. Noes, 6. Neutrals, 2.

[*Latin*, 21 *lines.*]

March 13. **426.** SFORZA DE' BETTINI to the DUKE of MILAN.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

There is nothing else from England, except that the King and the Earl of Warwick are well agreed together, though as yet it is not known that they are arming for a descent in France, but it is suspected.

Tours, 13 March 1470.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

May 17. **427.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. ix. p. 43.

Considering the intelligence received from the Venetian ambassador in France, about the preparation making by the pirate Columbus for an attack on our subjects, it is necessary to make every provision for the defence of the Flanders galleys.—Put to the ballot, that the consuls in Bruges and London be written to, to order the commanders of the ships Malipiera and Squarcia instantly to join the captain of the Flanders galleys, and convoy him until he be out of danger from the said pirate. The said ships to await the dispatch of the galleys should they not have finished loading; to receive 500 ducats per month for their demurrage, the money being derived from the mass of the merchandise of the ships and galleys and from the galley freights; the captain to keep account of the period of demurrage, and of the merchandise of foreigners liable to this tax. The period of demurrage to commence from the arrival

1470.

of the ships at the Isle of Wight. The insurances made on these ships are not to be considered vitiated on this account.

Ayes, 68. Noes, 17. Neutrals, 28.

[*Latin*, 13 *lines*.]

June 17. Senato Mar. v. ix. p. 47.

**428.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Forbidding the grant of shipping-permits for the Flanders galleys, after the 26th instant.

Ayes, 136. Noes, 4. Neutrals, 1.

[*Latin*, 3 *lines*.]

1471.

April 23. Senato Mar. v. ix. p. 91.

**429.** DECREE of the SENATE.

At the suit of William Cooper, the Royal Council in London* has sentenced the Venetian nation to pay on next St. John's day, 1,200*l.* sterling, for damages on board a certain ship captured by "Ser" Nicolo de Canal, LL.D., our late captain general.

Put to the ballot that the procurators "de ultra," with research and diligence, do make inquiry into the hands of what persons the goods taken from the said ship passed, so that they may exact the money from them. Having made a careful and methodical process, be they bound within 15 days to come to the College, and state all they have discovered; the College and the procurators together coming to this Council with their opinions respecting the most desirable mode for recovering the said moneys. Each member of the College and each of the procurators to be bound by oath, under penalty of 500 ducats, to make a motion on this subject. Should any one of the procurators be unable to attend to this matter from illness, be his place supplied by one of the procurators of St. Mark's Church, by lot, provided he be not a member of the College. Notice of this resolve to be given to the consul in London, to whom in a few days the definite resolve shall be communicated. No one may make a motion for the Signory to pay either the whole or a part of the said moneys, or suffer any loss from a matter of this sort, under penalty of 1,000 golden ducats; nor may this present motion be repealed, suspended, or modified, under the same penalty.

Ayes, 119. Noes, 12. Neutrals, 8.

[*Latin*, 20 *lines*.]

May 4. In the Library of the Venetian Archives. Miscell. No. 51.

**430.** PROTEST of a BILL OF EXCHANGE for 100 ducats.

Drawn at Venice on 8th January 1471, by Gabriel Gradenigo, on Antonio Justiniano.

The billbroker, Manfredo de Nequis (*sic*), declared that in London on the 9th April the Venetian ducat was worth 50 sterlings.

[*Italian and Latin. Parchment*, 20 *lines*.]

May 21. Senato Mar. ix. p. 97.

**431.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning William Cooper.

The case of William Cooper, of England, who incurred loss on board the ship of Andrea de Neapoli was referred to three of the

* Query, the Council of Henry VI.

1471.

procurators, who, having examined many witnesses and made all possible inquiry, ascertained that the goods and money plundered from that ship passed into the hands of divers men of the fleet.—Put to the ballot, that the state attorneys be charged to arrest whomsoever have been partakers of the spoil, and compel them to restore it, or pay for such effects as may have reached their hands and shall not be found; and also to compel "Ser" Nicolo [de Canal, LL.D., late captain general on the sea] to give whatever portion of the plunder may have reached his hands.

Be it again written to King Edward, who has lately obtained the kingdom, and already by full letters has been assured of the particulars, that he do not permit Venetian merchants to be persecuted at the suit of the said William, congratulating him on his fortunate successes and most just acquisition of the kingdom, and repeating what was formerly written in this matter.

Ayes, 28, 32.

Proposed amendment to the foregoing motion:

That, besides recovering the utmost possible from the men aforesaid, until the expiration of the month of June the residue required to complete the sum of 2,300 ducats be supplied and paid from the goods of "Ser" Nicolo de Canal, as in the motion made by the procurator, "Ser" Nicolo Soranzo, and his colleagues.

Ayes, 18. Noes, 10. Neutrals, 32, 45.

The Council is acquainted with the fact of the damage done to William Cooper (Cuper) on board the ship of Andrea de Neapoli as it was on its voyage from Constantinople; it having been captured off Scio by "Ser" Nicolo de Canal, LL.D., then our captain general on the sea. On this account the Royal Council in England sentenced the Venetian nation to pay 1,200*l.* sterling. Three of our procurators were charged to take cognizance of the case, who have made diligent inquiry. No doubt remains but that the sole cause of the damage and inconvenience was "Ser" Nicolo, he and his agents receiving the property abstracted from the said ship.

Put to the ballot that "Ser" Nicolo and his sons, who administer the paternal property and everything concerning that affair, be compelled to disburse speedily 2,300 ducats, which it was decreed to give to Cooper. For the residue of the sum awarded against Venetian subjects, be their indemnity provided for as shall seem best. But be there reserved to "Ser" Nicolo action against all who obtained possession, or to whom he gave goods belonging to Cooper.

Ayes, 55–66.

[*Latin*, 38 *lines.*]

May 27. Senato Mar. v. ix. p. 97.

**432.** MOTIONS made in the SENATE concerning the mode of raising the indemnity required for William Cooper.

Motion of the five Councillors and their colleagues.

Ayes, 60.

Motion of the Councillor "Ser" Gabriel Loredano and the two Procurators.

Ayes, 50; neutrals, 60.

[*Latin*, 3 *lines.*]

1471.
June 8. Senato Mar. v. ix. p. 97.

433. On the 8th June the motions [concerning the indemnity for William Cooper] were repeated.

Motion of the five councillors and the sages their colleagues.

Ayes, 45–38.

Motion of the sixth councillor and of the two procurators.

Ayes, 50–52. Neutrals, 55–59.

[*Latin*, 3 *lines*.]

June 17.

434. SFORZA DE' BETTINI to the DUKE of MILAN.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

It is understood, through very trustworthy persons arrived from England, that King Edward is intent solely on mustering a large army for the invasion of this kingdom. But although here they are not without suspicion of this, yet is it not credited that the English will make a descent in France this season, and in the meanwhile a complete agreement may ensue with the Duke of Burgundy, in which case there will be little to fear from the English. Should this not be effected, there is no doubt but that some people will have more to do than they wish; yet there is at least one consolation, that in a similar war with the English there will be no fear of secret understandings between them and these French Lords, nor will the latter join the Duke of Burgundy; and King Lewis and all his followers will go with more heart and soul to this war than they did against Burgundy alone. It must not be supposed however, should this take place, but that the English allied with the Duke will wrest much from King Lewis, whose power is nevertheless great when the lords follow him at a good pace, and there is no fear of treason or secret understanding. Should it commence, it will be a war no less long than terrible and bloody; but the general opinion tends strongly to a belief that the Duke of Burgundy in one way or another will rather make peace than not, and that thus the war will cease.

King Edward has not chosen any longer to have the custody of King Henry, although he is as it were guiltless and a personage whose affairs are not such as to cause much suspicion. The Prince, his son, and the Earl of Warwick have perished. All his most powerful adherents have shared the same fate, or are in the Tower of London, where he himself is a prisoner. King Edward has had him put to death secretly, and is said to have done the like by the Queen (Margaret of Anjou), the consort of King Henry. He has in short chosen to crush the seed.

It seems that on account of this cruelty the people of England made some demonstrations of a rising against King Edward, but there being neither head nor tail, the thing was soon suppressed, and thus King Edward remains pacific King and dominator of that realm of England, without having any longer the slightest obstacle.

In Feria (La Fere), 17 June 1471.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

1471.
July 11.

**435.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. xi. p. 104.

Limiting the period of the grant of shipping-permits for the Flanders galleys to the 20th instant, and that the captain be forbidden to quit his galley after the 25th instant under penalty of 200 ducats.

Ayes, 132. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 3.

[*Latin, 3 lines.*]

July 16.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxv. p. 73.

**436.** COMMISSION from DOGE CHRISTOPHER MORO and the SENATE to BERNARDO BEMBO, appointing him Ambassador to the Duke of Burgundy.

Is acquainted with the case of the Englishman, William Cooper, who obtained an award of 2,200*l.* sterling from the counsellors of King Henry (VI.) against the Signory, although, in truth, the loss sustained by him was of moderate amount. Nevertheless, to gratify the present King Edward (IV.), who sent the said William to Venice with recommendations, the State gave him 1,000 ducats on account of the said damages, and 300 ducats for his expenses. For this reason the Doge and Senate desire the ambassador to obtain letters from the Duke of Burgundy to the King of England, in favour of Venetian merchants, from whom the ambassador is to obtain precise information on the subject. He is to afford all possible assistance to Venetian traders whether in England or Flanders, and to endeavour that the recommendation of the Duke be of the strongest.

[*Latin, 59 lines.*]

July 16.

**437.** SFORZA DE' BETTINI to the DUKE of MILAN.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

His Majesty (Lewis XI.) approves of your suggestion as to its being desirable to encourage disturbances in England, and says he is doing so with all his might, there yet remaining to him over there the Earl of Pembroke, brother to the late King Henry by the mother's side, who has a good number of towns in Wales, a strong country, and near Scotland; with the help of the Scotch it holds out constantly against King Edward. To this Earl and the Scotch King Lewis has ordered pecuniary assistance, such as is in his power, to be given, that they may maintain the war and disturbance; though on this his Majesty does not seem to place any great reliance.

His Majesty has a large fleet at sea and increases it daily, with the intention of giving battle to the English before they land, should they attempt to come here as talked of, though it is not believed that they will do so for this year. The report is attributed to the Duke of Burgundy, wishing to get better terms for himself should the agreement take place; and it is supposed that the same motive causes him to keep his army on foot and add to it.

His Majesty on his side is making all fitting provision for war.

"Ex Sancto Michaelo prope Turonem," 16 July 1471.

*Signed:* "E. Illme. et Exme. D. V. humilis servulus Sfortia."

*Addressed:* "Domino Duci Mediolani."

[*Extract, Italian.*]

1471.
Aug. 10.
St. Mark's Library.

**438.** EDWARD IV. to Pope SIXTUS IV.

Letter of congratulation on his being elected Pope.

Sends James [Goldwell] Bishop of Norwich and Master Edmund Coningsburgh, LL.D., his counsellors, beseeching the Pope to grant them certain things concerning his honour and dignity.

From our Palace of Westminster, 4th ides of August.

*Signed:* "Your Holiness's most devoted son Edward, King of England and France."

*Addressed.*

[*Original, paper. Latin, 9 lines.*]

Oct. 22.
In the Library of the Venetian Archives. Miscell. No. 51.

**439.** PROTEST of a BILL OF EXCHANGE for 100 ducats.

Drawn at Venice on 20th July 1471, by Gabriel Gradenigo on Antonio Justiniano in London, at usance, at the exchange 55½*d.* per ducat. The bill broker, Manfredo de Noquis (*sic*) declared that in London on 21st October the Venetian ducat was worth 50¾*d.*

[*Italian and Latin, 24 lines, parchment.*]

1472.
Feb. 8.
Senato Mar. v. ix. p. 125.

**440.** The DOGE and the SENATE to PAOLO TIEPOLO, Consul in London.

By his letters of the 12th ult., at the instigation of the Venetian merchants there, he gives notice of the contract for 400 bags of wool made by "Ser" Hieronimo Contarini with the King, his Majesty promising that he alone shall be allowed to load wools on board the Venetian galleys now in those parts. Are displeased at this, as it is contrary to their laws and orders and very injurious to their merchants and citizens, and have therefore committed it to their attorneys. Command him to send for the said "Ser" Hieronimo and inform him of their displeasure. The consul is to command him to cancel the contract so far as it prohibits any body but himself from loading wool on board Venetian galleys, as they by no means intend that any subject shall monopolise contracts, informing him that should the captain and masters of the said galleys be prevented loading other wools than his, they will on their arrival in this town be considered contraband and confiscated, one half to the arsenal, the other half to the attorneys. Are writing to Bertuccio Soranzo, captain of the Flanders galleys, commanding him during the period assigned for loading to give orders for receiving on board those galleys all such wools as Venetian subjects shall choose to ship, notwithstanding the contract. On the expiration of the term, let him depart forthwith, continuing his voyage according to the tenor of his auction. The consul shall give notice of this their will to their merchants there.

Be it carried that "Ser" Hieronimo be committed to the State Attorneys.

Ayes, 118. Noes, 3. Neutrals, 8.

[*Latin, 27 lines.*]

1472.
May 21.
Senato Mar. v. ix. p. 134.

**441.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the mode of satisfying the claims of William Cooper.

The King of England, Edward IV. has notified by letter and envoy, that he has modified the sentence passed in the time of his predecessor against the Venetian nation, on account of the damage suffered by William Cooper, to 750*l.* sterling, exhorting the Senate to provide for his satisfaction. The Venetian merchants are content to receive alum to this amount by the present Flanders galleys, and make the said payment with their own money, especially as the said envoy promises, if this be done, that the satisfaction shall be delayed until the arrival of the said galleys in those parts.—Put to the ballot, that alum be loaded on board the galleys at the rate of 20 ducats a thousand weight, sufficient to realize the said sum, and that it be weighed by the proveditors for the salt office. The Signory reserves to itself all rights on account of these damages. The usual freight to be paid.

Ayes, 108. Noes, 29. Neutrals, 5.

[*Latin*, 13 *lines.*]

June 29.
Senato Mar. v. ix. p. 139.

**442.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Ordering the captain of the Flanders galleys to be out of port on 9th July, under penalty of 200 ducats.

Ayes, 167. Noes, 2. Neutral, 0.

Note of the captain's departure on 17th July.

[*Latin*, 4 *lines.*]

Aug. 11.
Book of Privileges, v. ii. p. 53.

**443.** PRIVILEGE conferring the Rights of Venetian citizenship on Alvise Fontana of Bergamo; date 11 August 1472.

Document given in full; 50 lines; with a supplementary memorandum, purporting that 16 other similar privileges of later date had been conceded to various individuals, including one to John Cabot, thus: (16) "Simile privilegium factum fuit Johanni Caboot sub duce suprascripto 1476."

[*Extract, Italian.*]

1473.
Aug. 12.
In the Library of the Venetian Archives. Miscell. No. 51.

**444.** PROTEST of a BILL OF EXCHANGE for 150 ducats.

Drawn at Venice on the 10th of May 1473 by Gabriel Gradenigo on Antonio Justiniano in London, at usance, at the exchange of 55½*d.* a ducat.

The billbroker, Manfredo de Nocchj (*sic*), declaring that in London on 11th August 1473 the Venetian ducat was worth 50*d.* sterling.

[*Italian and Latin, parchment*, 17 *lines.*]

1474.
May 9.
Senato Mar. v. x. p. 7.

**445.** DECREE of the SENATE.]

It was carried in this Council in May 1473 that, on account of the disturbances of Syria, the term for English cloths, destined for the Levant, should be postponed for six months, and as much longer as should seem fit to this Council. As this term expired eight or ten days ago,—Put to the ballot, that the said cloths may have an additional two months without any payment of duty with the reservation

1474.

of one per cent. as usual, as promised them and as contained in the clause.

Ayes, 124. Noes, 3. Neutrals, 4.

[*Latin*, 6 *lines*.]

1475.
Aug. ?
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**446.** COPY of a WRITING from the Court of Monseigneur the LEGATE of AVIGNON [CHARLES DE BOURBON, ARCHBISHOP of LYONS,] to MADAME DE BOURBON.

The King of England accompanied by his brothers the Lords of Clarence and of Gloucester, with 25,000 good combatants or upwards, at the solicitation of certain perverse subjects of this kingdom, entered it as far as this side of the River Somme, four leagues from Noyon, having determined to attack our King, and usurp his kingdom by force.

The King of England, under pretence of certain prisoners, sent a herald, who informed the King secretly that if he was prepared to make some good agreement with him he was willing to return home. Thereupon our King sent the Admiral, the Bishop of Evreux, Monseigneur de Lude, and Monseigneur de St. Pierre, to hear further the wish of the King of England, and at a certain place four of the chief counsellors of the King of England, authorized by their King to negotiate secretly and without the knowledge of the Duke of Burgundy, held a conference there, and in less than two days a good peace was effected and agreed to at "Nostre Dame de la Victoire," near Senlis, in the presence of our Lord (nostro Sire) by the personages aforesaid, they being empowered so to do; and the King chose Monseigneur the Duke, my brother, and me alone to be present at this agreement, which is of the following tenour.

First, the King our Lord gives the King of England, to assist him to bear the expenses incurred by him for coming and returning, 75,000 ducats down, on payment of which—and the sum is all ready—the four personages above mentioned who made the agreement will remain here as hostages until the army shall have returned to England.

Moreover, commercial truces for seven years between our said Kings will be published, but between themselves they swear to them for life, the Duke of Burgundy being at liberty to become a party to them should he choose; if not, the King of England will declare himself his enemy within a brief period, and promises to serve our sovereign Lord the King against all, without any exception, on condition that the King our Lord do for seven years pay the King of England annually 50,000 ducats.

And the two Kings promise to effect the marriage of Monseigneur the Dauphin and of the daughter of the King of England, when they shall be of age for it.

And the King our Lord promises to abide by the decision of the King of England in the dispute between him and the Duke of Burgundy, if Burgundy choose to submit himself to it.

The two Kings are to meet with their full force on either side in battle array, and will, through envoys passing from one side to the other, effect this adjustment, which will be proclaimed and published.

1475.

This will be on Tuesday the 29th, when, if I can, I shall be present, as there is not going to be any bloodshed. Would, Madame, you knew what was said of Monseigneur and of our family, which alone serve the King in his great need, whereat the King rejoices much.

[*Italian*, 4 *pages.*]

Sept. 26.

**447.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Terra, v. vii. p. 89.

Their merchants make many profitable exchanges, receiving interest from others, drawing from Bruges on London, and *vice versâ*. The consuls in those places to discover all such changers, and send a list of them to the five Sages (for trade). All such persons to be taxed for two years. Should the consuls not make the inquisition effectually, they are to be fined 500 ducats each.

Ayes, 146. Noes, 3. Neutrals, 2.

[*Latin*, 11 *lines.*]

Oct. 1.

Sforza Archives, Milan

**448.** EDWARD IV. to GALEAZZO MARIA SFORZA, DUKE OF MILAN.

Announces the departure thitherwards of Anthony Earl of Rivers, one of his chief confidents and the brother of his dear consort. On his way to or from Rome, he purposes visiting the city of Milan and other places belonging to the Duke, whom he would see and converse with, if not inconvenient. The King therefore recommends him strongly, promising to reciprocate towards any Milanese coming to England with letters from the Duke.

London, calends of October 1475.

[*Latin*, 37 *lines.*]

Oct. 22.

Sforza Archives, Milan..

**449.** GIAN-PIETRO to GALEAZZO MARIA SFORZA, DUKE OF MILAN.

By my last of the 22nd and 23rd August—forwarded by the Venetian ambassador's courier, who, for a fee of six ducats which I gave him, promised to go in 18 days from Namur to Venice, there to consign it to Leonardo Botto for immediate transmission to your lordship—I announced the negotiations of the English for an agreement with France, and that they had already sent to acquaint this Lord (Charles the Bold) with the articles they intended stipulating, of which I sent a copy. This Duke was in despair at their so basely making an agreement without drawing the sword, nor does his lordship now mean to be a party to this treaty, but to wage the war as he is doing, after joining his Burgundian men at arms.

He sent the Bishop of Tournai and three other Knights of the Fleece as his ambassadors to the King of England, to endeavour to dissuade him from this treaty, if possible, expecting thus by keeping the field to have better terms from the King of France, as from one who knows him, &c.; but now the agreement with these English is made and concluded, as you will perceive by the enclosures.

Finally, the aforesaid King of England, through the dissatisfaction of his kingdom, has returned with the army, making many apologies to this Lord for what he has done, and wishing to be his friend; so the ambassadors have sent a copy of the agreement made by him, signed with his own seal, the which—as it differs from the first one

1475.

sent by me, most especially concerning the truce, which is for seven years, and as the articles were not clear, I asked the Duke for a copy and transmit it herewith.

Upwards of 2,000 Englishmen have come to take service with this Duke, who has accepted them, telling them he was very sure they would cut each others throats in England, and that it was better they should remain here to fight the French. The opinion of intelligent persons is that at any rate there will be disturbances in England, the King having exacted great treasure and done nothing; and this Duke foments such disturbances to his utmost.

By the accompanying copy of the truce between France and England, you will perceive that the King of France has reserved place for King Ferdinand and for your Lordship.

"Ex oppido Vaudemontis" (Vaudemont in Lorraine), 22 October 1475.

*Signed:* "Servus Jo. Petrus."

[*Italian, 3 pages.*]

Nov. 4. (Document penes me.)

**450.** PROTEST of a BILL of EXCHANGE for 50 ducats.

Drawn in Venice, at usance, on 21st July 1475, by Donado Lochadelli, in the name of Domenicho Becharato and Cristofallo Becharato of Mojan, as they themselves did not know how to write, on Bernardo Justiniano in London, at the exchange of 56 sterlings per ducat.

Certified that on 23rd October 1475 the Venetian ducat in London was worth 51½*d.*

[*Italian and Latin, 21 lines, parchment.*]

1476.

Feb. 24. Archives Venice, Library.

**451.** EDWARD IV. to POPE SIXTUS IV.

Although aware that, being placed on this throne, we are bound to do justice to our own subjects and all others residing in our realm, yet does nothing so much excite our watchful solicitude as the cause of the Faith and of the Church. Shortly before we assumed this sceptre there arose a monstrous promoter of iniquity and perdition, one Reginald Pecock, of yore considered Bishop of Chichester, against whose follies and new doctrine, which tended to subvert the decorum and dignity of the Church, and which he did not scruple to din into the ears of mankind everywhere, the prelates of this kingdom instituted legal proceedings and consulted the apostolic see and Pope Pius about taking stronger and ulterior measures by their authority.

Concerning the same matter, Pope Sixtus's immediate predecessor issued letters, of which a copy is enclosed.* But as other national disturbances supervened, and in consequence of the death of him who gave the letters, they did not receive the due execution. Moreover, after the death of the said Reginald, the writings and treatises composed by him multiplied in such wise that not only the laity but churchmen and scholastic graduates scarcely studied anything else, so that the pestiferous virus circulated in many human breasts,

* The enclosure does not exist.

1476.

and ere long would have spread immensely, had not the Almighty revealed the confessions of certain penitents for the easier dispersion of the remaining followers of that sect. We beeseech you, therefore, to dispatch other apostolic letters, by whose authority proceedings may be instituted from time to time against all holders of books and treatises edited by the said Reginald, and of any other erroneous books soever. We promise to employ all our care, diligence, and solicitude for the perpetual expulsion from the confines of our realm of all novelties and condemned dogmas of this sort. We have commenced doing so to our utmost, as Nicolo de Firmo, your Holiness' servant, who was present at this commencement, and is the bearer, can explain more fully.

Given in our castle of Windsor, 24 February, in the year of grace, according to the English reckoning, 1475.

*Signed:* "Your Holiness's most devoted son, Edward King of England and France, &c."

*Addressed.*

[*Original, parchment,* 18 *lines.*]

Feb. 25. **452.** EDWARD IV, to POPE SIXTUS IV.

Archives Venice, Library.

Has received his letters in favour of John Weston, Knight of Jerusalem, by the hands of Weston himself. Learns that his promotion to the Priory of St. John's in England would be grateful to the Pope, because he has been in no ordinary degree recommended by the Grand Master in Rhodes.

His predecessors have for centuries enjoyed the following privilege, namely, that as often as the Priory of St. John's fell vacant, the brethren of the order, meeting together by the King's assent, and voting one by one, elected a prior. The individual thus elected they presented to his Sovereign; nor in the memory of man does there exist anything to the contrary. The Sovereign was always wont to acknowledge the person thus elected, to leave him in free possession of the priory, to distinguish him by the place, state, and honour of Premier Baron of Parliament, and to concede him of free will whatever else might seem belonging to the dignity of his priory. There was nothing else to be done, save to apply by royal letters for a confirmatory bull from the Grand Master, which bull, during so many centuries, was never denied either to the King's predecessors or to himself.

Hopes the Pope will not infringe this very ancient right. Beseeches him therefore to command that the King's rights, which it is not lawful [for him] to sacrifice, being bound by oath to their maintenance, may be respected; asking the Pope to admonish the Grand Master and the Convent of the Knights of Rhodes thus to do.

Castle of Windsor, 25 February 1475, according to the reckoning of the Anglican Church.

*Addressed.*

*Signed.*

[*Original, parchment,* 19 *lines.*]

1476. March 29. Senato Terra, v. vii. p. 109, tergo.

**453.** DECREE of the SENATE.

That a privilege of citizenship within and without be made for John Cabot, as usual, for a residence of fifteen years.

Ayes, 149. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 0.

[*Printed by Romanin, vol. iv., p.* 453.]

May 10. Quarantia Criminale. v. v. p. 59.

**454.** DECREE of the SENATE.

That for the purpose of ascertaining the truth as to this theft, in the neighbourhood of Rome, of the precious jewels and plate belonging to Lord Anthony Angre * Lord Scales, brother of the Queen of England, and for the discovery of the perpetrators and of the distribution made of the property,—Be the arrest of Nicholas Cerdo and Vitus Cerdo, Germans, Nicholas Cerdo, and Anthony, a German of Schleswick, dealer in ultramarine, (arrested by permission from the Signory,) ratified at the suit of the State attorneys; and as they would not tell the whole truth by fair means,† be a committee formed, the majority of which to have liberty to examine and rack them all or each; and the committee shall, with the deposition thus obtained, come to this Council and do justice.

Ayes, 24. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 12.

[*Latin,* 8 *lines.*]

May 13. Senato Terra. v. vii. p. 114.

**455.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Lord Scales, the brother-in-law of the King of England, has come to Venice on account of certain jewels of which he was robbed at Torre di Baccano, near Rome. Part of them having been brought hither and sold to certain citizens, he has earnestly requested the Signory to have said jewels restored to him, alleging in his favour civil statutes, enacting that stolen goods should be freely restored to their owner. As it is for the interest of the Signory to make every demonstration of love and good will towards his lordship on his own account, and especially out of regard for the King, his brother-in-law,—Put to the ballot, that the said jewels purchased in this city by Venetian subjects be restored gratuitously to the said lord; he being told that this is done out of deference for the King of England and for his lordship, without his incurring any cost.

As the affair is committed to the State attorneys,—Be it carried that they be bound, together with the ordinary councils, to dispatch it within two months, and ascertain whether or not the purchasers of the jewels purchased them honestly. Should they have been bought unfairly, the purchasers to lose their money. While, if the contrary were the case, Toma Mocenigo, Nicolo de Cà de Pesaro, and Marin Contarini shall be bound as they themselves volunteered to pay what was expended for the jewels, together with the costs, namely, 400 ducats. These moneys to be drawn for through a bill of exchange by these three noblemen on the consul in

* In the original "Arnite," evidently a mistake for "Angre." See Burke, title Rivers, "Johannes de Ripariis, Domine de Angre."

† "De plano."

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London, there to be paid by the consul and passed by him to the debit of the factory on account of goods loaded by Venetians in England on board the Flanders galleys (Ser Antonio Contarini, captain,) on their return to this city; and in like manner to the debit of the London factory here, on account of goods loaded on board the present Flanders galleys (Ser Andrea de Mosto, captain), bound to England, on their arrival in those parts. If the attorneys and the appointed councils fail to dispatch the matter as above, they shall be fined two ducats each; yet, on the expiration of the said term, the said three noblemen shall be bound to pay the moneys above mentioned.

Ayes, 74. Noes, 33. Neutrals, 14.

[*Latin*, 39 *lines.*]

May 31. **456.** BILL (first and third) for 20 ducats, at usance.

In the Library of the Venetian Archives. Miscell. No. 51. Drawn in Venice on 31st May 1476, by Nicolo de Lorenzo, on Alvise Contarini in London, at the exchange of 56 sterlings per ducat.

[*Italian*, 5 *lines, paper.*]

June 1. **457.** PROTEST of a BILL OF EXCHANGE for 100 ducats.

In the Library of the Venetian Archives. Miscell. No. 51. Drawn in Venice on 28th February 1476, by Piero Chalbo on Bernardo Justiniano, in London, at the exchange of 56 sterlings per ducat. Certified that in London, on 29th May 1476, the rate of exchange for a ducat was 51½*d.*

[*Italian and Latin*, 19 *lines, parchment.*]

Aug. 31. **458.** PROTEST of a BILL of EXCHANGE drawn in VENICE by NICOLO DE LORENZO.

In the Library of the Venetain Archives. Miscell. No. 51. Drawn in Venice on 31st May 1476, by Nicolo de Lorenzo, on Alvise Contarini in London, at the exchange of 56 sterlings per ducat.

[*Italian and Latin*, 17 *lines, parchment.*]

1477.

Feb. 27. **459.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. x. p. 109. Appointing to the post of arbalast men on board the London galley for the next voyage the poor nobles Pietro Zantani and Bernardo Badoer.

Ayes, 75. Noes, 53. Neutrals, 3.

[*Latin*, 10 *lines,*]

April 3. **460.** PROTEST of a BILL OF EXCHANGE for 60 ducats.

In the Library of the Venetian Archives. Miscell. No. 51. Drawn in Venice on 1st January 1476–77, by Zuan Francesco Tollinio, in the name of Todaro de Paschuallin and Co., on Lodovico Contarini in London, at the exchange of 56½ sterlings per ducat. Certified that on 2d April 1477 the rate of exchange in London for a ducat was 52½*d.*

[*Italian and Latin, parchment*, 20 *lines.*]

1477.
May 3. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxviii. p. 11.

**461.** COMMISSION from the DOGE and SENATE to DOMENICO GRADENIGO, appointed Ambassador to the King of France.

Amongst other things he is to give an account of the state of the territories of the late Duke of Burgundy (Charles the Bold) and those of the King of England.

[*Latin*, 85 *lines.*]

Sept. 27. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxviii. p. 49.

**462.** The DOGE and SENATE to the AMBASSADOR in FRANCE, DOMENICO GRADENIGO.

To acquaint the Venetian consuls in Bruges and London and the captain of the Flanders galleys, with the terms of the agreement made by him with Lewis XI.

[*Latin*, 52 *lines.*]

Dec. 2. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxviii. p. 68.

**463.** The DOGE and SENATE to DOMENICO GRADENIGO, Ambassador in France.

*If* he depart without coming to a good conclusion touching peace with France, he is to acquaint the captain of the Flanders galleys and the consuls in Bruges and London with the failure of the negotiation, and urge them to be watchful lest they fall into the hands of French subjects, charging the consuls to give warning to the galleys.

[*Latin*, 77 *lines.*]

1478.
March 3. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxviii. p. 81.

**464.** COMMUNICATIONS made by the SIGNORY to GIOVANNI CANDIDA, Secretary of the Duke and Duchess of Burgundy.

Of late years, the King of France having taken several Venetian ships, and repeatedly waylaid the galleys which the State sent annually to Flanders and to England, it was endeavoured to secure said galleys and ships, through the Venetian nobleman Francesco Donado, who was sent to the French court. The mission was notified to the late Duke Charles, who approved of the Signory's resolve.

Subsequently, Domenico Gradenigo was sent as the Republic's ambassador, and the galleys and ships aforesaid were guaranteed, without any condition detrimental.

[*Italian*, 63 *lines.*]

May 23. Archives Venice, Library.

**465.** EDWARD IV. to POPE SIXTUS IV.

Supposes his Holiness has not forgotten the King's frequent letters in recommendation of the monastery of Westminster. Recently commissioned John, Abbot of Abingdon, when he was ambassador there (at the Roman Court), to urge the Pope to make provision for the irreparable injury inflicted on it through the unusually frequent vacancies in its abbatial dignity. Understanding that not the slightest satisfaction has been conceded, is compelled to repeat his request.

Westminster is an extremely ancient monastery, founded of yore by the King's ancestors; was consecrated by the Apostle Peter, patron of the abbey, and is distinguished by the tomb of Edward King of England and Confessor. Although constructed in part

1478.

by the King's ancestors,—and now almost entirely destroyed by age,—yet did they leave the greater portion of the church unbuilt; and the poverty of the monastery has forbidden its completion down to the present day. Nor has this proceeded solely from the disastrous times and inundations which carried away many of its possessions: it has proceeded also from the excessive outlay made at Rome for the confirmation of the newly elected abbots. No one better than his Holiness can remedy this detriment. Entreats him therefore to grant that the abbots elected in the monastery, situated as it is, in the front of all England, may, without further confirmation from the holy see, be considered abbots of the monastery. This demand is not a novelty; for to certain monasteries of this kingdom, at the suit of the King's predecessors the Apostolic see conceded the like, although these monasteries neither were at the time nor are they in such great need. Does not conclude that his prayers to his Holiness will have less weight than those of his ancestors, who assuredly were not more ready to obey the see apostolic than he who has devoted himself to its good pleasure. He therefore prays for favour in this case of Westminster, as more agreeable to himself than anything, and as it will augment not a little the devotion of the English nation towards his Holiness and the see apostolic. Has intrusted the dispatch of this business to John de Gerona, for whom he requests audience.

From Greenwich, 10th kalends of June, 1478.

*Signed. Addressed.*

[*Original, parchment, Latin, 26 lines.*]

1479.
June 8.

**466.** The DOGE and SENATE to the EMPEROR FREDERICK III.

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxix. p. 17.

Complain of Pope Sixtus IV., who, after discussing at great length the means of terminating the war of Tuscany, at length proposed referring the matter for arbitration to the King of France, to the King of England, to the Emperor, and to his son Duke Maximilian, as if the disputes had been very great and it were not perfectly easy to restore a few cities taken by either side in the course of the war, and thus to pacify Italy most speedily and with all equity.

[*Latin, 25 lines.*]

June 8.

**467.** The DOGE and SENATE to EDWARD IV.

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxix. p. 17.

Wrote, in the past months, and gave notice of the peace made with the Turk, and of the Italian war, alluding slightly to its authors and causes.

We were simultaneously waging two wars; one with the Turk, and another which concerned the existence of our allies (the Florentines). Lest the two wars should overwhelm us, we sought to make peace with both parties, and found one more tractable than the other, as the covetousness and fury of a third party (Girolamo Riario) occupied and distracted the Pope's mind so greatly that, even after making peace with the Turk, when we implored peace, we could not obtain it.

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The Pope, compelled by the prayers of our confederation, either to grant or to refuse it openly, fictitiously proposed to refer everything to the King of the French and to your Highness, with the intervention of the Emperor and the Prince Maximilian, they being persons whom he perfectly understood were by no means suited to such arbitration, as at the commencement of the negotiation, when the French ambassadors offered the mediation of the most Christian King, he rejected this interference as not becoming his supreme dignity.

The ambassadors of our confederation were compelled to depart from the Roman court, and our confederation is compelled to repel injury; so whatever injurious may happen, must be imputed to the authors of the war.

[*Latin*, 40 *lines.*]

June 8. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxix. p. 18.

**468.** The DOGE and SENATE to the AMBASSADOR in FRANCE, the Knight BERTUCCIO GABRIEL.

Inform him, amongst other things, that the Pope, not satisfied with the mere arbitration of the King of France, in order to render the matter more difficult, and by this pretence to win his royal Majesty of England, the Emperor, and the Prince Maximilian, added them, knowing very well that for several reasons and causes they were by no means adapted to such arbitration.

Encloses extracts from a letter, showing that already at the Roman court on this account dissension had arisen between the Imperial ambassadors and those of the Kings, not exempt from artifice on the part of the Pontiff and his advisers.

[*Latin*, 49 *lines.*]

June 17. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxix. p. 22.

**469.** ANNOUNCEMENT from the SIGNORY to the MILANESE and FLORENTINE AMBASSADORS.

As to a proposal made by the French ambassadors at Florence about giving power of arbitration to the Kings both of France and England, the day before yesterday the Senate was convoked to answer the demands made in the first letters of the Government of Florence, whence fresh letters had been received subsequently; so the Signory had delayed, for the purpose of conferring with the ambassadors and giving them a reply, as requisite, &c.

[*Latin and Italian*, 24 *lines.*]

Dec. 24. Senato Mar. v. xi. p. 54.

**470.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Announcing that on the arrival at Bruges of the Flanders galleys, commanded by Lorenzo Venier, the merchants had not made their usual deposits as in the time of his predecessor, Damiano Moro. Should the galleys depart on their homeward voyage before these deposits be made, the consul in London to compel the Venetian merchants resident there, who may be debtors for similar deposits, to make them; the consul at Bruges giving him notice by letter of such merchants as are liable for the like.

Ayes, 99, Noes, 0. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin*, 9 *lines.*]

1480.
March 13.
Senato Mar. v. xi. p. 61.

**471.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning a claim for damages made by Don Diego, feudal lord of "El Ferrol," that port being frequented by the Flanders galleys. The consuls in Bruges and London are desired to raise the necessary funds, the London factory paying two-thirds and the Bruges factory the remainder.

[*Latin*, 28 *lines*.]

Sept. 7.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxix. p. 130.

**472.** STATEMENT made to the SIGNORY by the Reverend BISHOP of CENTA (Septensis), Ambassador from Duke Maximilian.

That the Duke Maximilian has succeeded to the dominions of his father-in-law, Duke Charles of Burgundy, the very great friend and confederate of the Signory.

That his lordship has contracted relationship with the King of England, having taken one of his daughters for his eldest son the Duke of Burgundy; also that the King of England has taken the daughter of the Duke of Britanny, the heiress of that duchy, for his eldest son: so for his own interest that King comes to be the protector of either state, and is also mediator for the peace now in course of negotiation.

On this important occasion, Duke Maximilian, anxious for the conclusion of this arrangement, has sent the Bishop of Centa to the Signory to learn whether, if all the other potentates of Italy unite, the Republic will join them, as in that case he will conclude the peace aforesaid, and come into Austria, that all may unite for the defence of Christendom and of their own territories.

[*Italian*, 57 *lines*.]

Sept. 26.
Senato Mar. v. xi. p. 89.

**473.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the Debts of the LONDON FACTORY.

By letters from Ferigo di Priuli, consul in London, are assured that the factory there is so burdened with debts, that unless a remedy be applied, as was originally the intention of this Council, that voyage must be abandoned, this being caused by the very heavy expenses incurred, and by the renitency of debtors who have by no means cared to pay; and as for the general benefit of our affairs and of our merchants, provision should be made for enforcing what was maturely enacted of yore,—Put to the ballot, that no merchandise belonging to our merchants, brought from the island of England, be by any means, under any colour or pretext, removed from our custom-house save in the presence of the "writer" of our officials for Old Accounts, appointed to keep the accounts of the quotas, under penalty, &c. &c.; the merchants being bound to show receipts in full from the consul in London for payment of their quotas before removing their effects.

All debtors on this account to be compelled to pay, and the consul in London to transmit an official note of all the merchandise exported by our galleys and ships during the last five years from the island of England, and on which the quota has not been paid, specifying by whom exported, whether for Venice or for any other place, so that the debtors, and the amount of their debt, may be

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clearly known. Should the debtors not pay in full within a month after the receipt of the list by the office for Old Accounts, one-fourth extra to be charged them; and should the consul not have note in the factory registers of the exporters of merchandise from England, he is to go to the customhouse and obtain an official list of all, under seal; any expense thus incurred to be defrayed by the factory.

All future consuls to be bound from time to time to send the list of all exporters of goods from England who shall not have paid the quota, so that the whole may be levied by the state attorneys without appeal to any other council.

Ayes, 96. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 9.

[*Italian, 50 lines.*]

1481.

Feb. 27. **474.** EDWARD IV. to POPE SIXTUS IV.

Archives Venice, Library.

As it is advantageous to the Christian religion that wealth and other things precious from their natural excellence should be drawn into its power from the hands of the Infidels, he willingly permits his subjects to pass over to any part of Africa for traffic, and the exchange of baser merchandise for nobler, provided this be sanctioned by the Pope's authority.

He therefore prays his Holiness that no suspicion may attach to this voyage, and to grant letters for the aforesaid purpose, to date from the 1st of November last.

London, the 27th day of February.

*Signed.*

[*Original, parchment, Latin, 8 lines.*]

20 May. **475.** EDWARD IV. to POPE SIXTUS IV.

Archives Venice, Library.

Are compelled at this stormy period, when we should have preferred using all endeavours in aid of Christendom, to provide both for the future events of our kingdom, and to complain that we are thwarted in our better purpose by the proceedings of our perfidious neighbours; also to take necessary measures, on account of the fickle movements of the Scots, who have availed themselves of the opportunity, lest while abroad from the common weal we should seem to have neglected our own at home.

After long truces with them to which we had been accustomed, and which they should have observed for many years; after the royal marriage, and contracts stipulated and agreed to in fulfilment of truces; and after the considerable sums of money paid annually to their King, on account of the marriage of our children which remains for consummation,—regardless of all faith, courtesy, and honor,—they have drawn their hostile swords on us and our realm. We cannot abstain from asserting our primeval right, left dormant for awhile for the sake of foreign affairs, and we must defend and avenge ourselves, rather than with extreme disgrace and mortification suffer outrage from a race ungrateful and oblivious of benefits.

For these reasons, we lead in person into Scotland, in the course of this summer, our army lately raised and so immensely burdensome

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to ourselves and to our subjects. Would infinitely have preferred being associated with the other sovereigns of Christendom in an expedition against the Turk, instead of thus perilling the lives of Christians by strife amongst each other. You will comprehend the struggle in our breast, we having taken much pains to seek peace between Christian powers both here and beyond sea; and perceive that we longed for nothing so much as that we should all rise up hand in hand in aid of the Catholic faith—which trust through perfidy having been impeded, it behoves you to urge the King of Scots to mend his malicious ways, and to enjoin him to acknowledge the indubitable right of supremacy which we assert over him, and give security that we be not defrauded of the marriage of his eldest son, nor of the moneys disbursed by us on that account for our daughter, according to contract, so that by reason of his outrages against us and his misdeeds, the service of the Christian commonwealth be no longer delayed. For, if after the jubilee and the many indulgences for the need of the Knights of Rhodes and of your most holy see, of which such immense multitudes availed themselves that an infinite amount of money went out of the country, your Holiness did not receive a satisfactory answer concerning the tithe on our clergy,—this did not proceed from irreverence, or arrogant impulse, but because we and the clergy and laity of our realm in a body are at this present so engaged against domestic enemies that we are unable to attend to both our own and foreign affairs.

Bear with us under our present necessities, give gracious hearing to our procurator, and speedily gratify our just wish on account of the need of the present times; and our internal affairs being adjusted by the see apostolic, we may turn our whole might to the assistance of the Roman church.

From London, 13th kalends of June, the year of our Lord 1481.

*Signed:* "Edward R."

*Endorsed:* "2 July 1481."

[*Original, parchment, 22 lines.*]

Aug. 9.

**476.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. xi. p. 120.

Concerning payment by the London factory of damages claimed by Don Diego de Aunza, Lord of "El Ferrol," on account of a ship captured off Majorca by the captain of the Flanders galleys, Hieronimo Molin, apparently in the year 1466.

[*Latin, 18 lines.*]

Nov. 15.

**477.** PROTEST of a BILL of EXCHANGE for 2,000 ducats.

In the Library of the Venetian Archives, Miscell. No. 51.

Drawn in Venice, at usance, plus 15 days, on the 31st July 1481, by Giacomo Usuagi on Girolamo Tiepolo in London, payable to Pancratio Justinian and Marino Mocenigo, at the exchange of 54¾ sterlings per ducat. Registered by Thomas Kyffyn, citizen of London, notary public, at his house in Lombard Street.

Certified that in London the Venetian ducat was then worth fifty-one pence sterling and three quarters.

[*The bill in Italian, the rest of the document in Latin, 26 lines, parchment.*]

1482. Jan. 12. Archives Venice, Library.

**478.** EDWARD IV. to POPE SIXTUS IV.

The Lord Frederick de Clugnyac, Cardinal of Tournai, my very dear friend, is about to proceed to the Roman court; and by reason of his eminent virtues and our old acquaintance, and his most faithful services rendered to me, both in the marriage contract of my sister the Lady Margaret with my cousin Duke Charles of happy memory (Charles the Bold), and in other frequent employments, I love him most extremely.

Be your Holiness pleased to understand it is my intention that my own and my subjects' affairs be directed with his advice and assistance, under favour of your Holiness, whom I beseech to hold the said Cardinal of Tournai in all business recommended for my sake.

From my Castle of Wyndsore, the 12th day of January.

*Signed:* "Edward Rex."

[*Original parchment, Latin, 12 lines.*]

Jan. 22. Senato Mar. v. xi. p. 127.

**479.** DOGE GIOVANNI MOCENIGO to KING EDWARD IV.

Have heard lately that, contrary to practice and the ancient custom of your kingdom, it has been forbidden and prohibited to load wool for conveyance to Venice on board the galleys commanded by the nobleman Nicolo Capello. This prohibition is so injurious to the galleys and so irksome to ourselves, that we are of opinion it must be unknown to your Royal highness, or has been made at the suggestion of some one misinformed, as the whole world is sufficiently acquainted with your royal clemency and justice. The matter is for many reasons held by us in great account, and we much wish the ancient custom to be observed towards our galleys, and that your Majesty do not permit the introduction of this new custom, to the evident detriment and disadvantage of our galleys and merchants. On these accounts we have determined to write to beseech you to maintain the ancient custom.

[*Latin, 27½ lines.*]

Jan. 22. Senato Mar. v. xi. p. 127.

**480.** DOGE GIOVANNI MOCENIGO and the SENATE to NICOLO CAPELLO, Captain of the Flanders galleys.

Have heard with surprise and displeasure of the prohibition announced to him by the King of England, that the galleys may not load wools for Venice, but only such as belong to Florentines for Pisa. Regret this matter by reason of its importance and novelty, and much more so if it proceeded, as has been said, from the suggestion and art of Venetian subjects, which, if proved, would induce such a demonstration against the delinquents, that for the future others would have an example for the avoidance of such misdemeanours. Have therefore written to the King, as by copy enclosed, praying him not to permit this innovation, but to allow the shipment of wools on board the galleys.

In the meanwhile the captain, by such means as shall seem fit to him, is to obtain the King's consent for the shipment of the wools, which, with all other merchandise included in the prohibition, the

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captain is to load, notwithstanding the expiration of the term assigned by his commission, and by the auction of said galleys.

The captain to ascertain the origin of this prohibition, to take the depositions in writing, in legal form, so that they may not be falsified; and to bring these documents to Venice.

[*Italian*, 31 *lines*.]

April 25. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. vol. xxx. p. 76.

**481.** The DOGE and SENATE to the CAPTAIN of the FLANDERS GALLEYS.

As owing to our present disputes with the Duke of Ferrara it is credible and may be supposed that his confederates will attack us, we therefore give you notice to quit England as soon as possible.

And as by the form of your commission, and according to the auction contract of the galleys, you are bound to touch certain ports of Majorca and Sicily, we give you liberty not to go to such ports as you shall consider perilous.

Ayes, 124. Noes, 4. Neutrals, 6.

[*Italian*, 12 *lines*.]

May 22. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**482.** EDWARD IV. to GIAN GALEAZZO VISCONTI, DUKE of MILAN.

Alludes to the agreeable, upright, courageous, and faithful service received by him these many years from Sir Robert Chamberlayne, knight, whom he most earnestly recommends to the Duke, as it is his intention to visit the Milanese to see its marvels and princely palaces. Says that Sir Robert Chamberlayne is noble by ancient descent, a valiant knight skilled in military science, and beyond measure pleasing to him, so that any favours he may receive the King will consider personal.

London, 22 May 1482.

[*Latin*, 28 *lines*.]

Aug. 25. Archives Venice, Library.

**483.** EDWARD IV. to POPE SIXTUS IV.

Have resolved to state what was achieved this summer in Scotland, that the truth may be known.

Thank God, the giver of all good gifts, for the support received from our most loving brother, whose success is so proven that he alone would suffice to chastise the whole kingdom of Scotland. This year we appointed our very dear brother Richard Duke of Gloucester to command the same army which we ourselves intended to have led last year, had not adverse turmoil hindered us.

Wrote to your Holiness heretofore about James King of Scots; how he set at nought peace, truces, matrimonial alliances and other agreements made between the kingdoms, without provocation. When, as customary with borderers upon the rupture of truces, excursions were made last year by the troops on either side, the enemy was not satisfied with having been both the first and second cause of the disturbance, but impudently boasted in his letters, even to the Apostolic see, of having destroyed certain strongholds of ours, and put an army, 200,000 strong, to shameful flight. In fact, the army which our brother lately led into Scotland, traversing

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the heart of that kingdom without hindrance, arrived at the royal city of Edinburgh, and found the King with the other chief lords of the kingdom shut up in a most strongly fortified castle, nowise thinking of arms, of war, of resistance, but giving up that right fair and opulent city into the power of the English, who, had not their compassion exceeded all human cupidity, would have instantly doomed the same to plunder and the flames. The noble band of victors, however, spared the supplicant and prostrate citizens, the churches, and not only the widows, orphans, and minors, but all persons found there unarmed. To this favour there contributed the intercession of the Duke of Albany, who of late years having been undeservedly banished by his brother the King of Scots, and now by the power of our army restored to his estates and titles, was of opinion that his return would be the more welcome if our soldiers, for his sake, modified the contributions levied by them on the country.

The chief advantage of the whole expedition is the reconquest of the town and castle of Berwick, which one and twenty years ago, before our coronation, went over to the Scots; but previously it was in the uninterrupted possession of our forefathers, whose just title having descended to us, we were bound to recover what was ours. A small chosen band therefore received the surrender of the town immediately on sitting down before it, though the same was entirely surrounded with impregnable walls. The citadel, however, because of its well chosen position and state of defence, was not taken until the rest of the army had returned; when, not without some slaughter and bloodshed, it was reduced.

It now remains for your Holiness to complete the work by monitions; for we would that these two nations should be as united in heart and soul as they are by neighbourhood, soil, and language; which end, should it be sought by our adversaries, we shall always be found prone and placable, and now especially as the Duke of Albany so influences their policy, that the Scots will henceforth, we hope, observe treaties with us more steadily than is their wont.

From London, 8th kalends of September.

*Signed:* "Your devoted son, Edward R."

[*Original, 27 lines, parchment.*]

1483.
July 9.

**484.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta, vol. xxxi. p. 40.

Put to the ballot that by a scrutiny of this Council an ambassador be elected to the King of England with a retinue; terms, conditions, penalties, and all the restrictions as contained in the election of the ambassador destined for the Duke of Burgundy. The ambassador elect bound to depart whenever ordered by the Signory, with the selfsame commission, *mutatis mutandis*, as was given to our ambassador sent to the King of the French, and as is now given to the ambassador on his way to Burgundy, so far as relates*

* "Il Papa vedendo riuscir vane tutte le sue esortazioni, pronunziò il 22. Giugno 1483 l'interdetto contro la Repubblica."—Romanin, vol. iv. p. 413.

1483.

to justifying ourselves, and to soliciting a council; besides making which justification and suit he must, in the first place, condole with the King of England on the death of his father, and congratulate him on his pacific accession to the paternal kingdom and dominions, as we have already done by letter.

Ayes, 119. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 2.

Ambassador elected, "Ser" Bernardo Bembo, doctor and knight.

[*Latin*, 19 *lines*.]

July 13. **485.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Terra. vol ix. p. 14.

Authorizing Bernardo Bembo, LL.D. and knight, elected ambassador to the King of England, and Domenico Zorzi, in like manner elected ambassador to the Duke of Austria—in order that they may go more instructed and informed concerning all matters relating to their legations—to sit in the Senate until their departure, but without balloting.

Ayes, 118. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin*, 6 *lines*.]

1484.

March 10. **486.** RICHARD III. to GIAN GALEAZZO SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

Mindful of the friendship and good will which had ever prevailed between the Duke's most illustrious family and the Kings of England, his predecessors. Recommends to him the bearer Thomas (Langton), Bishop of St. David's, his counsellor and ambassador, whom he is sending to the Apostolic see for certain business of his, relying on the Duke's showing him all favour on his passage through his territories; promising to do anything in his power for the Duke in England, &c. &c.

Cambridge University, 10 March 1484.

*Signed:* Ricardus Rex (manu propria).

[*Latin*, 36 *lines*.]

March 31. **487.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. vol. xii. p. 3.

Caused by letters from the Venetian Consul in London, complaining of grievances to which the Venetian merchants in England are subjected, and also of the infringement of the safeconducts conceded to the Republic.

Act passed by the Senate authorizing the College to write to Richard III. and other lords of England, claiming indemnity for the merchants and observance of the safeconducts.

[*Latin*, 7 *lines*.]

Oct. 15. **488.** RICHARD III. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Archives Venice, Library.

Lately received letters from our ambassador in the court (of Rome), the Rev. Father the Lord John (Sherwood) of Durham, whereby he assured us of the elevation of your Holiness to the Apostolic dignity. Rejoice that the Church of God has been provided with so worthy a pastor. Shall soon send your Holiness other letters; and certain ambassadors, amongst whom the said Lord of Durham will be the chief, or one (of the chief), charged to tender our faithful obedience and devotion.

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Strongly recommend to your Holiness our said ambassador, the Lord of Durham, and our affairs; and earnestly pray you to raise him to the Cardinalate, not so much in consideration of our prayers as of his own learning and virtues. Wrote on this subject frequently to the Lord Sixtus, the immediate predecessor of your Holiness, who would, we doubt not, have promoted him if God had granted him a longer life, inasmuch as he knew him to be most faithful to the Apostolic see; for whilst employed nearly nine years at the Roman court, he always notified such things to King Edward our brother, to us, and to other peers (*proceribus*) of this realm, as would tend to maintain the grandeur of the holy see. Again and again, therefore, we humbly supplicate your Holiness to deign before his return to us, which we believe will soon take place, to honour him with the dignity of Cardinal.

From the Castle of Nottingham, the very ides of October 1484.

*Signed:* "Richard."

[*Original, parchment,* 23 *lines.*]

Nov. 4. St. Mark's Library.

**489.** The GRAND MASTER of RHODES, Pierre Daubusson, to INNOCENT VIII.

Accredits as his ambassadors, to tender obedience on the Pope's accession, the venerable religious brothers, Edward de Carmedino, preceptor of Langon, and John Kendal, turcopolier of the order and procurator general at the Roman court, and the notable man the Grand Master's secretary, Guilliaume Caoursin.

From Rhodes, the 4th of November 1484.

[*Original, paper. Latin,* 6 *lines.*]

Dec. 16. Archives Venice, Library.

**490.** RICHARD III. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Has constituted certain persons, ambassadors and procurators, to tender in his name to his Holiness devout and faithful obedience, as contained in other letters patent sent therewith.

From London, 16th day of December.

*Signed:* "Richard."

[*Original, parchment. Latin,* 12 *lines.*]

Dec. 22. "Lettere Collegio," vol. iv. p. 49.

**491.** To the CONSUL in LONDON.

He is immediately to despatch a trustworthy messenger with the enclosed letters, in the form of briefs, to the captain of the Flanders Galleys.

[*Italian,* 9 *lines.*]

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April 12. MS. penes me.

**492.** COMMISSION from DOGE GIOVANNI MOCENIGO to the Noble BORTOLOMEO MINIO, appointing him Captain of the Flanders Galleys.

Salary for the voyage 600 golden ducats, with which, besides servants, he is to keep a clerk, priest, notary, an admiral—for whose board, and not his pay, he is alone responsible—and two physicians. The salaries of the captain, admiral, musicians, physicians and others to be paid as usual by the masters. For the present year, each galley to have (at the cost of the galleys) 30 good arbalast men from 20 to 50 years of age, with a monthly salary of 19 livres—each

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livre containing four light "soldi"—and galley rations as usual, like the oarsmen; with the understanding moreover, that amongst the said arbalast men there be included four noble youths for each galley, and no more; the which noblemen to be boarded by the masters of the galleys, who are also to pay them their full salaries going and returning, according to the act passed in this matter. Amongst the aforesaid stipendiaries, the masters to take with them one competent adviser for each galley, with a monthly salary of 10 ducats in money, to be paid by the masters who are to board them; the said adviser to be in lieu of one of the arbalast men appointed to each galley.

On the day of his arrival at Sluys the captain to engage a courier for Venice, and inform all the merchants that they may write if they please, dispatching him on the morrow at the farthest, with news of the date of his entry into port; to send a second courier in like manner after a fortnight's interval.

On the homeward voyage each galley to bring 120,000 weight of light goods, under penalty, &c.; and the masters in Flanders or England to obtain from the merchants 80,000 weight of copper and tin for each galley and no more. The merchant shippers of the said tin and copper to be paid four ducats for each 1,000 weight avoirdupois.

With the first freight money received by the captain, he is to purchase "in the west" four pieces of ordnance for each galley; to be given to the arsenal on the return.

The masters to be at liberty to remain one month and half more than usual between Bruges and London, and to touch on the outward voyage at Palermo and Messina.

On his departure from Flanders and return to England, the captain to remain either at Sandwich or Southampton for 90 days. To be at liberty to touch at Alicant or not; and on the homeward voyage he has also the option of touching at Pisa and Talamone, and of sending thither one or more galleys.

The masters, before being confirmed by the Senate, to deposit at the Accountant's Office one half of the money required for the usual presents made in the Signory's name to the King of England and the Duke of Burgundy; the other half to be disbursed on their return, under penalty, &c.

Should the galleys be detained at Sluys by the ice beyond the term assigned them, the extra days to be deducted from those appointed for the stay in Hampton, provided always that the merchandise be disposed of within the said term.

On the voyage toward Venice, the galleys to touch at the usual ports; and on the way, both out and home, should the masters deem it advantageous, they are allowed to go to Malaga and Almeria; though should the country be at all in a disturbed state, the captain alone to decide thereon: if they go, they may remain three days in each of those places. When in the waters of Almeria, the captain to dismiss the galley which is to return by the Barbary ports, touching at One, Oran, Tunis, and the other places for which it may have goods, remaining but three days at each; shipping all goods along the coast, either from port to port, or for Venice, exacting the same freight money as the Barbary galleys, and receiving it at the same date.

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The master of the aforesaid galley forbidden to take from any Venetian subject more than 25 ducats freight money for each thousand weight of cloth. The goods of Venetians to be shipped before those of foreigners; and first of all the galley to load for Barbary. If unable to obtain a full cargo for that district, she may then take the entire surplus freight of the other galleys bound for Venice; and after touching at the Barbary ports she is then to go to Syracuse.

Term of payment for the freights of cloths and wools, 16 months from the day of the arrival of the galleys at Venice; for tin and wrought pewter, 8 months; for all goods loaded in Malaga, Majorca, and Sicily, 6 months.

On making the island of England, the captain to dismiss the two galleys bound to London; and should there be more spices for Sluys than contained in the two galleys destined for that port, in that case one of the two London galleys, namely, the one which does not carry the [vice]captain, to go to Sluys, and after landing the spices return to London as customary of late years. The galleys, on going to any place in England, not to load or unload any thing soever under penalty of 500 ducats, &c.; and under the like penalty the captain is bound to go to Sluys, for the avoidance of such peril as incurred by the galleys of late years.

The London galleys being dismissed, the captain is then to go with the others to Sluys, there to remain for 60 days, those of arrival and departure not included; and on their expiration, he is to proceed either to Sandwich or Hampton, as shall seem best to him; and in the port thus selected he is to remain and load for 60 (*sic*) days, and then return to Venice. Ten days before departure from England, the masters to unship the windlasses, and no longer load anything, under penalty of 500 ducats; and in like manner the sailing masters and "comiti," and all the other stipendiaries [of the Sluys galleys] are prohibited from going to London, with the exception of the admiral when directed by the captain for matters concerning the galleys, under penalty, &c.

Of the two London galleys, one, to be chosen either by agreement or lot, to return by the coast of Barbary; shipping first of all in England fine cloths and merchandise, save that neither copper nor tin, nor vessels of those metals, are to be imported into Barbary, under penalty of 500 ducats, &c. &c.

The masters both in Flanders and England, and also at all intermediate ports, on their return, to load all such goods as shall be brought them for Venice, until the very last hour of their departure (*sic*); which goods, if left behind for the sake of taking others for the intermediate ports, or on any other account, they to make good the loss incurred by such rejection, and pay the arsenal the freight which will be deducted from their "bounty." The consuls both in London and Bruges to keep account of all merchandise presented for Venice; and on the homeward voyage, the captain, in Flanders, England, and all other places, is to keep account, with the "writer's assistant" and his chaplain, of all goods presented for Venice, whether shipped or not; and this note he is to consign to the Signory on his arrival.

After the departure from Flanders of these present galleys, all merchandise, of which the conveyance is conceded to them exclusively,

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and which shall be sent to Venice (by other means) within two months from that time, either by land or water (in case the galleys have not their full cargo), to pay full freight to the Signory, for the benefit of the arsenal, whose masters to receive one "soldo" per "livre," for all sums thus collected by them. All goods from England likewise brought by land or sea to pay the like freight to the said galleys until the departure of the next galleys for England.

The physician not to receive more than seven ducats per month.

On the outward voyage, the masters not to stay in any place beyond the limited number of days, and on the homeward voyage less, under penalty of 100 golden ducats for each day, to be deducted from the bounty; the captain keeping account of these days under oath.

Notice to be given of all these clauses to the consuls at Bruges and in London, that they may endeavour to obtain the payment of full freight to the Signory for all merchandise.

Prohibition against shipment in the holds, or in their berths by the masters, officials, or oarsmen, of cloths called Verui (*sic*) Santone, Lowestoft, Bastards, Serges, and Furs (*varij-vairs*). The cloths called "Bastards," Lowestoft, white "Gotifaldi," wools, and block tin, to be loaded for Venice alone, and not for intermediate ports.

The masters to give the crews, arbalast men, and comrades three months' pay in England, at the rate of 38 pence per ducat. One month's loan to be made at the same rate; and any further advance to be charged at the exchange of the day. On payment of these moneys in England, the "writers" of the galleys forbidden to receive more than one penny from each man.

Prohibition against stowing on deck either chests or wrought pewter; nor may currants or molasses be stowed in the hold.

Gross spice to pay freight at the rate of four ducats; small spice and Levant sugar, five ducats; cottons, raw and spun, 12 ducats, currants,—lambskins, and undressed hides, 18 ducats; wax of every sort, 10 ducats; dressed hides, 10 ducats for every 1,000; paper, one ducat and a half for every bale containing 12 reams; silks of every sort, 20 ducats per thousand-weight Troy (mier sotil). Foreign fustians may be imported under the usual restrictions. Cloths valued at 25 ducats and under, half a ducat per piece, and of higher value, one ducat; household utensils, half a ducat per 100; and should any one smuggle raw silk, or cloth of silk, or pass them as spices, substituting one sort of merchandise for another, the goods to be forfeited.

The freights of merchandise and goods loaded for the intermediate ports to belong to the masters; but all goods loaded in Flanders, Malaga, England, and Sicily, whether on deck or below, to pay freight to the Signory.

Each of the masters on his safe return to Venice to receive from the Signory a bounty of 3,500 golden ducats of the unappropriated moneys of the Jews, which, the debentures being liquidated, may not be dispersed or employed for any other purpose than that bounty, under penalty of 1,000 ducats to any one acting otherwise; he paying the sum from his own purse, and being proclaimed a thief in the hall of Grand Council. Each of the masters is at liberty

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to proceed against those who shall make any motion to the contrary. The masters to receive also for the aforesaid bounty 3,500 ducats of the three and two per cents. from the Signory, and all the freights (on goods loaded for the immediate ports) on the homeward voyage.

Each of the masters to disburse 400 ducats as a loan eight days after receiving the galleys from the masters of the arsenal, under penalty of 1,000 ducats. This loan to be repaid them from the proceeds of the auction and the emendations (emendi); and, should the price paid by them at the auction exceed the loan, they may deduct it from the bounty derived from the two and three per cents.; the masters of the arsenal being bound, under penalty, to expend the loan on nothing but the outfit of the galleys, and the captain or the majority of the masters being present when the moneys are disbursed, and keeping careful and particular account of their application that they be not employed for any other purpose.

On the opening of the bank of the Flanders galleys the masters to deposit the instalments of pay required for the crews, arbalast men, and stipendiaries. The masters forbidden to engage men for the voyage, instead of by the month, or to compound with them in any way, under penalty, but the crews to be paid like those of the galleys bound to Syria. No vessel at Venice to load for Flanders, or be "put up" for that voyage from the day of the decree (28 April 1484) until two months after the period assigned to the galleys for their departure (15 July 1484); ships bound to Candia or from Candia to Flanders or England to be at liberty to continue their voyages, but not to load currants or others goods of which the Flanders galleys had the monopoly. Should the captain incur expense for the reception of personages of rank or others, he is to give a note of it in writing to the masters, and should he not do so, its payment to be optional with them, provided the captain allege no just impediment. The galleys to convey the Republic's ambassadors and envoys, and ammunition, and all other things belonging to the Signory to any ports made on the voyage, free of passage money or freight.

Each of the masters to give the arsenal 50 ducats for the dry docks, and 10 ducats for the purchase of houses; also 200 lbs. of white-wrought wax, on their return, to the Procurators of St. Mark's Church. The presents for the King of England (Richard III.), and the Duke of Burgundy (Philip the Handsome), to be paid with the first moneys derived from the averages on goods, one half on going, the other on returning; and as Sluys and Bruges were blockaded by the Archduke Maximilian, by land and sea, the inhabitants of those places being in revolt against him, the Senate authorized the captain of the Flanders galleys, Bortolomeo Minio, on the 29th April 1485, to take them either to Antwerp or Middleburg; the masters being forbidden to claim any indemnity on this account.

Ducal Palace, 12 April 1485.

[*MS. illuminated volume of* 163 *pages, on parchment, part in Latin and part in Italian, being the original commission drawn up by order of the Doge and Senate.*]

1485.
April 19.

**493.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning Sir John Kendal.*

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxii. p. 141.

Some two months ago the Reverend Prior (*sic*) of England arrived here as ambassador from the Grand Master of Rhodes. Stated that whilst the Turks were besieging Rhodes he had loaded a ship with oil, wine, and other things destined for that island. He and the ship were detained at Modon, by Costantino Loredano, our naval commander there; and although, when notice of this seizure was given to Vettor Soranzo, our captain-general on the sea, orders were given for the Prior's immediate release, he suffered great loss from the detention of the ship, because the oil and wine were not delivered in due time and were plundered, and because he lost a most capital horse on board worth 80 ducats.

His excellent qualities and great friendship for our nation are demonstrated by the fact that, when the bulls of the interdict were brought to England with the Pope's letters, he exerted himself in such wise with the King, enjoying much favour and power with His Majesty, that not only were those bulls not published nor observed, but with his own hand he tore them up, which doubtless was vastly to the repute of our State and to the advantage of our noblemen and citizens trading in England.

Put to the ballot, that besides the costs already paid to the Reverend Prior for the time during which he has remained in the our city, there be in like manner paid to him the costs of the horses which he kept and keeps at Padua; and moreover, as amends for the loss aforesaid, be there given him by our Signory 200 golden ducats in ready money.

Ayes, 130. Noes, 5. Neutrals, 1.

[*Latin*, 26 *lines*.]

April 23.

**494.** DECREE of the SENATE made at the suit of Sir John Kendal.

Senato Terra. v. ix., p. 136.

As owing to the recent death of the Knight of St. John's of Jerusalem, Dom. Nicolo de Ovatarijs, a benefice of that order fell vacant in our Polesine of Rovigo, and the Right Reverend Lord Prior (*sic*) of England, the great and devoted friend of our State, has requested that the said benefice be conferred on the Knight of St. John's, Dom. Francesco de Arcano, of the Friuli—this is promised by the whole College; but as the revenue of this benefice exceeds 115 ducats, the authority of this Council is necessary.

Put to the ballot, that our bailiff of Rovigo and captain of the Polesine be charged to put Dom. Francesco Arcano in possession of the aforesaid benefice.

Ayes, 77. Noes, 20. Neutrals, 22.

[*Latin*, 12 *lines*.]

April 30.

**495.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning recent Regulations in England prejudicial to the Venetian merchants there.

Senato Mar. v. xii., p. 42.

As by letters from our merchants it is understood that the

* Many valuable documents connected with the career of the English soldier, statesman and diplomatist, some of them holograph, are preserved in St. Mark's Library and the Archives. Though relating to an historical Englishman, famous and eminent in his times, and of whom his countrymen know so little at the present day, yet can these documents be but slightly noticed, as they relate to foreign negotiations. He is the earliest English subject of a contemporary medal, dated 1480, though probably cast a few years later, in Venice.

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King of England recently made, and daily continues making, many new regulations against our nation and merchants trading in those parts, which regulations are not only grievous and unbearable, but likewise impossible of observance, so that unless provision be made for their suppression, it will be absolutely necessary for our merchants now there to come away, no others going thither any more,—Put to the ballot, that for the suppression of the innovations aforesaid the King be written to in opportune and earnest form, as shall seem fit to the College.

Ayes, 132. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 2.

[*Latin*, 8 *lines.*]

May 2. Lettere Collegio. p. 104.

**496.** Doge Agostino Barbarigo and the Senate to Richard III.

A few days ago received the sad news that Queen Anne (Nevill), your beloved consort, had deceased. We, together with our Senate, mourned greatly, for we bear your Majesty such love and good will, that as we rejoice at any prosperous event that befalls you, so are we partakers of your sorrows. We exhort your Majesty, endowed with consummate equanimity and marvellous virtues, of your wisdom and grandeur of mind to bear the disaster calmly and resign yourself to the divine will; and be it your Majesty's consolation, that your consort led so religious and catholic a life, and was so adorned with goodness, prudence, and excellent morality, as to leave a name immortal.

Three months ago there came hither the ambassador of the Holy Order of Rhodes, the Reverend Lord Prior (*sic*) of St. John's, your counsellor, a man indeed we have cordially loved. After expressing to him our sorrow for the demise of the Queen, we narrated certain innovations to which it seems that our citizens trading in London have been subjected, contrary to the public promise, or to what they term the "safeconduct" conceded them, as you may clearly comprehend through the said Reverend Lord Prior.

Request you, on learning and understanding these innovations, that our citizens and merchants may not lose the benefit of their safeconducts, and may not be subjected to inconvenience and loss.

[*Latin*, 37 *lines.*]

May 2. Lettere Collegio. p. 103.

**497.** Circular from the Doge and Senate to the Venetian Governors of Padua, Vicenza, Verona, and Brescia.

The Reverend Lord Prior (*sic*) of England, ambassador from the Right Reverend the Lord Grand Master of Rhodes is about to come to Padua. Watch for his arrival—meet him on the way, well accompanied—receive him with every mark of love and respect—and accompany him to his lodging, where you will have his expenses paid and those of his retinue from the moneys of our Signory.

On his departure in like manner, you will accompany him with tokens of honour, making the usual offers, and in such bland form of speech as of your prudence you will know how to do.

[*Latin*, 11 *lines.*]

1485.
Sept. 18.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxii., p. 170.

**498.** The DOGE and SENATE to the Ambassador at Milan, HIERONIMO ZORZI.

Acquaint him with the capture on the 21st August, off Cape St. Vincent, of the Flanders galleys by six ships under the French flag, commanded by the son of Columbus and Giovanni Grego.* Have determined to send an embassy to France, being convinced that the capture was made unknown to the King and contrary to his wishes. As the mission requires dispatch, and relying on the extreme prudence, circumspection, and diligence of Zorzi, have appointed him to perform it. He is to present himself to the Duke of Milan and to his uncle the Regent, the Lord Ludovic Sforza, to explain the circumstance; then take leave of them and proceed immediately with all speed to the French court, there to present his credentials, and remonstrate as aforesaid. Enclose copy of existing treaties between France and Venice, and demand the release of the galleys, and all the crews, effects, merchandise and goods on board of them.

[*Latin*, 51 *lines*.]

**499.** ACCOUNT of the CAPTURE of the FLANDERS GALLEYS.

Sept. 18.
Marin Sanuto, MS. Lives of the Doges. Vol. ii., p. 254. (St. Mark's Library).

On the 18th of September news came how on the 22nd of August our four Flanders galleys, Bortolomeo Minio captain, having left Cadiz, fell in with Colombo, that is to say, Nicolo Griego (*sic*), captain of seven armed ships, under the flag of King Charles of France, and it was night, off Cape St. Vincent; then at day break they came to blows; three hundred men of the galleys' crews were killed, with "Ser" Lorenzo Michiel, master of one galley, and "Ser" Giacomo Dolfin, master of another, besides other noblemen. The battle lasted from the first hour of the day to the twentieth. At length Colombo was victorious, and captured the said galleys and took them into Lisbon, a town belonging to the King of Portugal; and the captain, the two masters, and the merchants were left by the corsair with scarcely clothes to their backs.

They unloaded the galleys, and having stowed the merchandise in their own ships left them empty and departed thence. But the King of Portugal—remembering that one of the Kings, his predecessors, came to Venice on his way to Jerusalem, as also subsequently did a son of that King, both being much honoured by the Venetians—clad the captain, Minio, the two masters, and the other noblemen and crews who had been stripped, and gave them money; so they set out on their way home, by land, and arrived here thus.

This bad news was brought by Antonio Todeschin, the clerk of "Ser" Marco Antonio Loredan, master of one of the lost galleys. The catastrophe occurred on the 20th of August. The fourth master was "Ser" ———.

On hearing this sad intelligence, it was carried in the Senate forthwith to send an ambassador to the King of France, to complain that our galleys had been captured under his flag, and to try and recover what was possible. That the ambassador might arrive

* An account of this capture of the Flanders galleys has been printed by Count Agostino Sagredo in the Malipiero Annals, part 2, pp. 620–621. (Italian.)

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speedily, it was carried that Hironimo Zorzi, who a few days since had assumed the embassy at Milan, should go immediately to France; and he set out forthwith, so . . . .

This capture of the Flanders galleys, including their own loss and that of the duties, cost our subjects and the State two hundred thousand ducats.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

Sept. 19. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxii., p. 170.

**500.** The DOGE and SENATE to the Ambassador BARBARO, at Milan.

Have heard of the announcement made to the Lord Ludovic Sforza by the Secretary, Gasparo della Vedova; how much he regretted the loss of the Flanders galleys, and what offers he made for their recovery, considering the loss greater perhaps than it really is. Praise the ambassador for endeavouring to represent the mischief as less than had been stated by the Secretary. Desire him to return thanks to the Lord Ludovic, and to say that not only is the damage less than the secretary reported, but that even his own statement was exaggerated. Will therefore not trouble his lordship to send an ambassador, especially being assured that the galleys were to be taken to Lisbon, which would give hopes of an agreement between the masters and the captors, in which case the trouble would be unnecessary; and the State reserves the acceptance of his offers for greater exigencies.

Ayes, 41.

[*Latin, 16 lines.*]

Oct. 20. Original letters in St. Mark's Library, MS. clxxvii., letter No. 21.

**501.** The BISHOP of IMOLA to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

According to common report as heard by me on my way, the King of England (Richard III.) has been killed in battle. Here, some people tell me he is alive and reigning, but others deny it.

Mayence, 20 October 1485.

[*Extract, Latin, 29 lines.*]

Nov. 3. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxii., p. 132.

**502.** MOTION made in the SENATE concerning the Capture of the Flanders Galleys.

Put to the ballot, that "Ser" Melchior Trivisano, our vicecaptain general on the sea, be written to, that as it is our intention to provide for the indemnity of our subjects, being assured that a galeass belonging to the King of France is at Alexandria, we command you to watch the aforesaid galeass, and in such waters as shall be most fitting to you, by fair means or by force, get possession of this galeass, giving express orders that no one do take or even touch any thing on board, and in like manner no molestation be offered to the crew, beyond that of the seizure, as may chance at the first commotion, when it will perhaps be requisite to employ force; and of the result you will forthwith give us notice by letter. In order that you may execute this our resolve, we send you by the galley commanded by "Ser" Hieronimo Bon 5,000 ducats in bags, that you may give aid to our crews, and that you may hire more men as needed.

Moreover, as from what we hear the galeass is large, we are of opinion you will require to have ships near you, and therefore

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give you full liberty to dispose of all our galleys, ships, and vessels at your option, with the exception of the galleys of the Beyrout, Alexandria, and Traffuk voyages. Keep this order secretly to yourself, not communicating it to any save the captain of our armed ships.

Ayes, 60. Noes, 37. Neutrals, 16.

[*Italian*, 46 *lines*.]

Nov. 26. **503.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. xii., p. 62.

On the 14th March 1478 it was carried, that all Frankish wools brought hither from the island of England by land or sea by other vessels than by our Flanders-traffic galleys should pay freight to said galleys. Thus decreed, to facilitate the navigation of those galleys, they being calculated to keep this city sufficiently supplied with the wools aforesaid.

At this present however, by reason of the adverse and unexpected catastrophe of the interception of our galleys bound on the aforesaid Flanders voyage, we cannot hope to have wools this year from the island aforesaid, and as those brought by the last galleys are few and not sufficient for the need of this city; and on this account little work can be put in hand by the drapers who have come into the presence of the Signory, earnestly requesting that proper provision may be made, and setting forth the great detriment incurred both from the lack of purchasers exporting Venetian cloths for the whole of Italy and even for foreign parts; as also because a great part of the poor of this city was maintained by the manufacture of woollens, which manufacture failing, their supply of food fails, and they perish by hunger, to the offence of God, and to the disparagement and detriment of our Signory, whose chief end has been to provide that all the poor may live and maintain themselves.

Put to the ballot, in lieu of the wools which should have been brought by the intercepted galleys, all persons, natives as well as aliens, to be authorized until the middle of next June to export from England, Flanders, and Brabant, wools for this city, either by land or water, by any ships and vessels soever, even foreign, without obligation to pay any freight to the said galleys, with liberty to effect insurances as if on board Venetian vessels.

Consuls in London and Bruges to keep a distinct account of all wools exported from all the above written places within the above written period.

Ayes, 107. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin*, 26 *lines*.]

Dec. 2. **504.** DECREE of the SENATE addressed to the CONSUL in LONDON, concerning the Capture of the Flanders Galleys.

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxii., p. 184.

As Hieronino Zorzi, whom we have sent as ambassador to the King of France to recover our Flanders galleys captured by Columbus' son and by Zorzi Griego, may require you to effect something for this recovery, through the King of England or by other means, we command you to execute whatsoever shall be written to you by the aforesaid ambassador, precisely as if you had received the letters from ourselves.

[*Italian*, 7½ *lines*.]

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Dec. 2.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta, v. xxxii., p. 184.

**505.** The DOGE and SENATE to HIERONIMO ZORZI, Ambassador in France.

Have received his letter of the 5th December, announcing the fair promises of the King of France touching the recovery of the Flanders galleys. Consider it certain that immediate restitution will be made in full. Do not yet know for certain what course they steered; some say that they made for England, relying that they should be safe and secure under the protection of that King. Conjecture that should the corsair be within the jurisdiction of the King (of France), the State and justice would obtain ample satisfaction. Hope that the like would take place should the corsair have proceeded to the territories of the King of England or of the Duke of Burgundy, to whom, besides the enclosures of which copies are sent, they doubt not but that he has already obtained from his most Christian Majesty and transmitted very full letters. In order that he may take such steps as shall seem most advantageous, have by the accompanying letters charged the consuls in London and Bruges to do whatever he may enjoin them, &c.

Ayes, 137. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 1.

[*Latin*, 40 *lines*.]

Dec. 6.
MS. in S. Mark's Library, No. 178.

**506.** GIOVANNI DE GIGLIS, Collector of Peter's Pence in England, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Since the last letters he wrote concerning the state of these affairs, nothing fresh occurred. A public assembly of the realm, called by them a parliament, is being held for its reformation, in which some acts have been passed, and first of all, a general amnesty for all offences against the King. The Earl of Northumberland (Henry Percy), who was captured and imprisoned, has been set at liberty, but on security from all the prelates, the temporal lords, and likewise from the commons. The Earl of Surrey (Thomas Howard), is still under arrest, but De Giglis hears he will be released. The first-born daughter of King Edward has been declared Duchess of York; it is positively asserted that the King is about to marry her, which everybody considers advantageous for the kingdom. The King himself is deemed most prudent and clement: all things appear disposed towards peace.

Commends himself to his Holiness, and requests the grant of certain small privileges conceded to former collectors here, without which (papal) authority suffers, and the business of the treasury cannot be transacted profitably.

London, 6 December 1485.

*Signed:* "Jo. de Giglis, collector in England."

Postscript.—Has heard that the Bishops of Bath and Salisbury are released together with all their property: they are both fully pardoned or acquitted, and not undeservedly. There are envoys here from the King of France, and from the Dukes of Austria and Britanny. It is believed that there will be peace with these powers.

[*Latin*, 29 *lines*.]

1485.
Dec. 15.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxii., p. 185.

**507.** The DOGE and SENATE to HIERONIMO ZORZI, Ambassador in France.

Have received his letters of the 20th and 22nd November. Are most thoroughly satisfied with his exertions, and consider him worthy of praise and commendation.

Are pleased first of all with the constant perseverance of the King in taking all possible steps to indemnify the State and her merchants for the no less iniquitous than audacious capture of the galleys, by the commanders of his Majesty's fleet; and for that due and signal punishment will be inflicted on the perpetrators of so heinous an offence, who, not content with having committed the first outrage, have added bad to bad, and most cruelly murdered Rossetti, the ambassador's messenger, or more truly the messenger of the King, whose letters he was conveying.

Repeat the order for him to seek the assistance of the King of England and the Duke of Burgundy. Anxious for the good result of the business, are sending the presents demanded by the ambassador, according to the accompanying list, with letters of thanks, in anticipation, for the King and the Duke of Lorraine, and others; adding also four letters of the like tenor, without any address, which the ambassador is to add in such form as may be requisite. Moreover, enclose an estimate of the value of the galleys.

Vote proposed of 1,200 ducats for the presents, and that the letters be drawn up in such form as shall seem fit to the College.

Ayes, 87.

Proposed amendment.—That instead of sending the presents, 1,200 ducats be remitted to the ambassador for him to purchase them in France, should he perceive that any good result can be anticipated; but if of opinion that the case is hopeless and the presents useless, be they then not made, nor the remittance used.

Ayes, 31. Noes, 30. Neutrals, 6.

[*Latin, 44 lines.*]

1486.
Jan. 9.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxii., p. 188.

**508.** The DOGE and SENATE to HIERONIMO ZORZI, Ambassador in France.

By the ambassador's letters of the 16th and 17th December have understood the determination of the King and his Council to send two knights to Honfleur for the recovery of the cargoes of the Flanders galleys, and are much pleased that the ambassador should have sent his secretary with them, for the avoidance of any fraud or deceit in the restitution. Should the recovery be effected, it is the wish of the merchants and likewise of the insurers, for greater safety and to avoid the expense of land carriage, that the goods be sent by sea to England, to Hampton, if the ambassador be of opinion that there is no evident danger from pirates in those waters.

If unable to send the goods by sea, he is to forward them by the river to Rouen, the State not choosing them to remain in the power of the admiral at Honfleur. To defray the costs of shipment, &c., have ordered the consuls in London and Bruges to supply the ambassador on his demand with such moneys as required.

Although, in conformity with the wishes of the merchants and

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insurers, they had ordered the conveyance of the goods by water to Hampton, nevertheless the heavy goods, namely the wines, cottons, and currants, are at any rate to be taken to Hampton by sea, and there to await the orders of the State.

Ayes, 85. Noes, 20. Neutrals, 13.

[*Latin*, 63 *lines.*]

Feb. 19. **509.** ——————— to Pope Innocent VIII.

MSS. in St. Mark's Library, No. 177.

Giovanni Ambrosio de Negroni, with his partners who trade here, understanding that a Spanish ship with alum from Piombino was on its voyage to Flanders, made an agreement with English mariners for the capture of the ship, because it carried alum confiscated to the Apostolic treasury.

The mariners thus engaged attacked the Spaniard not far from England, both parties fighting for a long while and many being killed and wounded. At length the English mariners who upheld the interests of Christ's Vicar were victorious, and took the captured ship into port in England. A certain Florentine merchant, who also trades here, on hearing that the alum had been taken, either because it was his own, or for the sake of favouring some one to whom the same belonged, had recourse to his friends for their intercession with the King for a prohibition against the carrying by force into the realm of this alum, which had always hitherto been exported freely.

Gio. Ambrosio maintained, exhibiting a bull of Pope Sixtus, whereby all purchasers and exporters of alum from Piombino are excommunicated and heretics, that the Florentine should not be listened to, as he was excommunicated. In virtue of this, and by many arguments, Gio. Ambrosio showed that the alum was forfeited to the Apostolic treasury. The King, after hearing both sides, sent the alum for safe custody to certain persons at no great distance from the port into which the alum had been taken, until decision of the suit.

Whilst the alum was thus under sequestration, and the litigants at daily strife for superiority, I came to London and stated to the King that the alum of Piombino belonged to your Holiness, and how insolently and iniquitously the Lord of Piombino had behaved against the Apostolic see. I said how vehemently your Holiness took this matter to heart, and that you had given me commands about it for the King of France, for King Richard his predecessor, and for Duke Maximilian. Throughout his reply he ever expressed himself animated by the desire to favour the Apostolic see, but said he was new in the kingdom, which is governed by its own and ancient laws, and that he could neither oppose, infringe, nor abrogate. Last of all he referred to three objections, which placed Gio. Ambrosio in the wrong. First, that there was no prohibition against bringing alum to England. Secondly, that in his time no bulls had been read or published relative to the matter in his kingdom. Thirdly, that the capture of the ship, unknown to the King, and without his consent, was an act which could not be borne, and which ought not to remain unpunished.

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To these objections, however, sufficient replies were made, and in my opinion the King would have given judgment in favour of the Apostolic see, had not the partisans of the opposite side relied most especially on the third charge, to which the Parliament assented, and argued that Gio. Ambrosio had committed the crime of lese Majesty, by suborning English mariners, unknown to the King, for the purpose of capturing Spaniards, who are allied by treaty with this King and kingdom. At length, after many days debate, the restitution of the alum was decreed, solely (as I said) on the third account; and it would likewise have been decreed that Gio. Ambrosio should be prosecuted for lese Majesty had I not interceded out of respect for your Holiness.

This sentence sorely grieved Gio. Ambrosio and me and his partners, by reason of our reverence for the Apostolic bulls which had decreed the confiscation of the alum aforesaid. Gio. Ambrosio and his partners are so distressed as to defy exaggeration; they spent no small sum, and laboured hard and anxiously with great men for the defence of this cause. Should you deign to write to this King to forbid the importation of alum from Piombino into this realm, and recommend these merchants to him, as well as to the Archbishop of York, and the Bishops of Ely and Worcester (the Chancellor of the kingdom), addressing a brief to me, charging me to do the same with the King and the aforesaid, I hope the King will accede to the will of your Holiness, whom he seems much inclined to gratify and obey.

From London, the 19th February, 1486.

*Signature illegible.*

[*Latin*, 61 *lines*.]

April 9.

Marin Sanuto, MS. Lives of the Doges, in St. Mark's Library, ii. 262.

**510.** CAPTURE of the FLANDERS GALLEYS.

On the 9th of April letters were received from our Ambassador in France, Hieronimo Zorzi, how he had recovered from the captured Flanders galleys 200 bales spices, 150 butts Malmsey, 30 bags of cotton, 40 casks of currants, which were at Honfleur; item, that in Biscay there were spices derived from the same source, to the amount of 2,000 ducats; and that the King is well inclined towards the Signory's indemnity, and means to give satisfaction.

Nicolo Griego, who is called Columbus, junior (Colombo Zovene), wanted to obtain a safeconduct from the King for three weeks to arrange a compromise; the King made answer that he would not give it him, unless the ambassador chose to do so as he did. The corsair then came to the King, who, having heard his apologies, gave sentence that he had unduly captured our galleys at a loss to our subjects of 200,000 ducats.

[*Extract. Italian.*]

April 20.

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxiii., p. 6.

**511.** The DOGE and SENATE to HIERONIMO ZORZI, Ambassador in France.

Are of opinion that, in conformity with what was told him by Charles VIII., a great quantity of the plunder of the Flanders galleys may be found out of Honfleur; also, that as one half of

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the cargo of the London galley was taken to Britanny, cannot but persuade themselves that the property discovered there is small, and that if such diligence as fitting be used in the matter, much more merchandise and goods belonging to Venetian subjects will be recovered. Desire the ambassador to do his utmost to get as much as possible out of the hands of those royal commanders, whether at Honfleur, or in the neighbourhood, as likewise in Britanny and elsewhere.

Ask the ambassador as to the mode of removing the recovered plunder to London. Are afraid of sending it by the ships of the identical men who seized the galleys, or by those of their accomplices and colleagues. It would be very easy for the ambassador, by writing to the Venetian consuls in London and Bruges, to obtain vessels thence for the conveyance of the goods. Should this be impossible, he is then to send the merchandise and property to Hampton by the royal ships, taking such security as suggested by him through the King's messengers—if possible, without any cost, or with as little as possible, the State having unduly borne more expense and cost than enough; and the ambassador is to take care that one or more messengers from the said consuls as shall seem best to him, together with an agent of his own, do go on board the vessels and keep and preserve the merchandise and goods and consign them to the Venetian consul.

Ayes, 120. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin, 58 lines.*]

June 17. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxiii., p. 17.

**512.** The DOGE and SENATE to HIERONIMO ZORZI, Ambassador in France.

Declare that the arguments alleged to the ambassador by Mons. de Graville (the Admiral) and other lords concerning the hulls and decks of the galleys seized are inadmissible. Should the ambassador find it quite impossible to obtain indemnity for the entire loss, and that the French insist on deducting the two items of hulls and decks, the ambassador is to accept the following terms:—The Republic deducts from its original demand 50,000 ducats for the hulls and decks, estimating the latter at 30,000, although not really worth more than 20,000; such goods as recovered to be consigned to the ambassador, to whom security to be given for payment of the rest of the indemnity, on such terms as shall seem reasonable to him, within four or five years at the utmost. All the goods recovered to be sent to Hampton as mentioned in detail in former letters.

Ayes, 133. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 1.

[*Latin, 50 lines.*]

Oct. 6. St. Mark's Library.

**513.** JOHN (BALUE), CARDINAL OF ANGERS, to the RIGHT REV. LORD ———.

Announces the translation on that day, by Pope Innocent VIII. in private consistory, as usual,—on his report, and by the advice and assent of the right reverend cardinals, — of John (Morton), then absolved from the tie which bound him to the church of Ely, to the

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church of Canterbury, the see being vacant through the demise of Thomas (Bourchier), Cardinal of St. Ciriaco in Thermis.

"From my own house" (at Rome), Friday, 6th October, 1486.

[*Original. Latin,* 16 *lines, paper.*]

Oct. 6. St. Mark's Library.

**514.** JOHN CARDINAL of ANGERS, to the RIGHT REV. LORD ———.

Announces the translation on that day by Pope Innocent VIII. of John (Alcock) from the see of Worcester to the see of Ely, vacant by the translation of John Morton from Ely to Canterbury.

"From my own house" (at Rome), Friday, 6th October, 1486.

[*Original paper,* 19 *lines.*]

Oct. 14. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxiii., p. 37.

**515.** The DOGE and SENATE to HIERONIMO ZORZI, Ambassador in France.

See by his letters how the whole business is protracted, and that it is sought to avoid the restitution of merchandise seized by commanders under the flag of his Majesty, who is linked to the Republic by alliance.

Desire the ambassador, should he on the receipt of the present letter find the commissioners appointed not inclined to make any compromise, to present himself to the King to announce his recall, declaring that the State could not but suppose his Most Christian Majesty would do justice; and then, after strongly urging the grant of the indemnity, he is to take good leave and return to Venice.

[*Latin,* 56 *lines.*]

Nov. 13. St. Mark's Library.

**516.** JOHN CARDINAL of ANGERS to the RIGHT REV. LORD ———.

Announces the appointment this morning by Pope Innocent VIII., in private consistory, on his report, of a Bishop of Limerick.

Narrates how on the demise out of Rome of the late Bishop Thomas, the Precentor of Limerick, Richard Stakpoll, then in his 24th year, was appointed administrator of the see until he should attain the age of 27; and being now deceased at Rome, the Pope has conferred the vacant see on the Reverend Father the Lord John Dunmowe, Canon of Exeter, Doctor of Canon Law, ambassador and procurator of the King of England, the appointment being made by the advice of the cardinals and by apostolic authority.

Rome, Monday, 13th November 1486.

[*Autograph. Latin,* 25 *lines, paper.*]

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March 8. Senato Mar. v. xii., p. 107.

**517.** DECREE of the SENATE.

The consul in London, the nobleman Pietro Trivisano, has announced the arrival of two ships laden with goods, recovered from the Flanders galleys which were intercepted. Writes that he is awaiting orders what to do, as those goods cannot be kept there longer without damage or loss to the merchants and other injured parties. Put to the ballot, that three noblemen be elected to write to the consul about disposing of the goods aforesaid, and sending hither

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the amount realised, so that the parties damnified may be compensated each in proportion to his loss.

Elected by the College according to this decree on the 23rd of March, 1487:—

"Ser" Andrea Venier.
„ Paulo Tiepolo.
„ Paulo Trivisano.

Ayes, 89. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 8.

[*Latin*, 17 *lines*.]

June 13. St. Mark's Library.

**518.** PIERRE D'AUBUSSON, Grand Master of Rhodes, to Sir JOHN KENDAL, Turcopolier, his Ambassador at Rome.

Refers to the question of the custody of Sultan Zizim; to certain negotiations with the Duke of Savoy; and to defensive preparations to be made against the Turks.

Rhodes, 13 June 1487.

[*Original*, *French*, 86 *lines*.]

July 5. Archives, Venice, Library.

**519.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Shortly after we had marched an army against our enemies and rebels a report, erroneous and forged, was circulated in London and Westminster, and spread through many other parts of the kingdom, that we had been put to flight and our whole army dispersed. When this was heard some of those who, by reason of their crimes, enjoy the privileges and immunities of Westminster, being of opinion that after the commission of any nefarious crime soever they could have the free privilege of returning to that sanctuary (as we wrote more at large to your Holiness for the reform of enormities of this sort), took up arms for the purpose of plundering the houses of those whom they knew to be in the field with us, and mustered in a body for the commission of crime.

Amongst their number was one John Swit, who said,—"And what signify censures of Church or Pontiff? Do you not perceive that interdicts of that sort are of no weight whatever, since you see with your own eyes that those very men who obtained such in their own favour are routed, and that the whole anathema has recoiled upon their own heads?" On pronouncing these words he instantly fell dead upon the ground, and his face and body immediately became blacker than soot itself, and shortly afterwards the corpse emitted such a stench that no one soever could approach it. Verily we give thanks to Almighty God, who, of his ineffable mercy has exhibited in our kingdom so great a miracle concerning the Christian faith.

As some of the prelates of Ireland, namely, the Archbishop of Dublin, the Archbishop of Armagh, and the Bishops of Meath and Kildare (Darnensis), lent assistance to the rebels, and to a certain spurious lad, whom victory has now delivered into our hands, they pretending that the lad was the son of the late Duke of Clarence, and crowning him as King of England,—we implore your Holiness to cite them as having incurred the censures of the Church, and proceed against them at law.

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In fine you will leave to others most positive precepts not to attack us thus flagitiously for the future.

From our Palace near the Castle of Kenilworth, the 5th of July 1487.

*Signed*: "Henry."

[*Original letter, parchment,* 21 *lines. Document published in Latin, A.D.* 1861, *by Mr. James Gairdner, from the Vatican Transcripts in the British Museum, "Letters and Papers illustrative of the Reigns of Richard III. and Henry VII.," pp.* 94 *to* 96.]

Aug. 17. St. Mark's Library.

**520.** GIOVANNI DE GIGLIS, Collector of Peter's Pence in England, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Had written repeatedly of late giving all necessary advices, especially about the indulgences and subsidies against the Turk, showing that as yet nothing certain had either been promised nor yet expressly denied, though the business seemed difficult, most especially on account of the war with Scotland.

At this present the difficulties increase. The letters which the King requested the Pope to write to James IV. appear too much in favour of Scotland, implying that he recommended peace at the request of King Henry, who did not deem this honourable as he had just cause for war, for which he had made preparation, but was inclined to prefer a fair peace to a just war, for the avoidance of Christian bloodshed, though it appeared to him ignominious and disadvantageous for England to seek peace when he had such good reasons for hostilities. Encloses draft of a letter to be written by the Pope to the King of Scotland, which might facilitate a peace between the two countries, and render Henry VII. and the clergy and people of England more ready to bear a subsidy for defence against the Turks, of which there is not the slightest hope unless letters be written in conformity with his Majesty's wishes. The preparations for war are very great, and if hostilities occur there will be an end of the subsidy. Does not see that the second letters would be very much at variance with the first, the only difference being that they will not appear to have been written at the King's request, but of the Pope's own accord, for the good of Christendom.

Has written repeatedly to his Holiness that on account of ill health the King requests a dispensation authorizing him to eat meat on fast days. Supposes that the Pope has already granted these demands.

London, 17 August 1487.

[*Autograph. Latin,* 34 *lines, paper.*]

Aug. 23. St. Mark's Library.

**521.** There came into Venice the Count of St. Paul's, ambassador from the King of England on his way to Rome. Great honour was paid him.

[*Sanuto; Autograph Lives of the Doges, in St. Mark's Library,* Cod. d.ccci., Class vii., p. 285.]

1487.
Sept. 13.
Lettere Collegio, iv. No. 1.

**522.** HIERONIMO ZORZI, Ambassador in France, to the VENETIAN SIGNORY.

Announces the departure from Angers to Paris of the Hungarian Ambassador, whose horse fell under him, so that he was obliged to remain a few days at Tours, where, according to his own account, he received letters from his King commanding him, whether he had executed his commission or not, to return with all speed. He therefore determined not to go to Paris, and arrived on the 7th of September at Laval, on his way to the King of France.

Endeavoured to ascertain from the Hungarian Ambassador the position of the negotiation with the King of France for the custody of the Turk's brother (Zizim). The Hungarian answered that unless his King (Mathias Corvinus) had received a positive promise of the custody of Zizim he would not have sent an ambassador. The King of Hungary expected his business would be settled in a fortnight, whereas four months have elapsed and the ambassador not yet dismissed. He (the ambassador) determined on going to the court, and not remaining there more than ten days, after which, be the business done or not he would depart, though he could not persuade himself that the King and his Council would break their promises. He remained there at very great personal inconvenience and at the great cost of upwards of 50 ducats a day.

Believed this last assertion, as the Hungarian Ambassador entered Laval with 15 sumpter horses and 10 mules, carrying his baggage, covered with scarlet,—had 136 youths, well mounted, and two very fine horses of his own. Was informed by the Hungarian that the French Court gave him hopes of the custody of Zizim; that the King had taken 26 days' time for his reply, and had sent a messenger to learn Zizim's wishes; that two years ago the Grand Master of Rhodes had promised to give up Zizim; that there was no written evidence of this promise, and that the promise was then denied. Had ascertained from a trustworthy person that Zizim was willing to go to the King of Hungary if the King of Hungary would not surrender him into the hands of Sultan Bajazet, his brother, for he said that in France he is a lost man, and that the promises made to him had not been observed. Stated to his informant that if Guy de Blanchefort, Prior of Auvergne, who had Zizim in custody at Bourganeuf, and kept him for Rhodes, advised the King of France to surrender Zizim to the King of Hungary, who wanted to deliver him to the Turk for the sole purpose of making an agreement with the Turk—in that case, Zizim having been placed in France, under guarantee that he should be consigned to none but the Grand Master of Rhodes, or to such as he should choose, the King of France would break his promise, and place Rhodes and the whole of Christendom in very manifest peril, and by such proceeding would ill become a most Christian King, the title of the King of France.

Endeavoured to demonstrate the disadvantages and perils which might result to Christendom, and the shame to the King of France, were Zizim delivered to the King of Hungary. Exerted himself to induce this individual, who was a person of importance, so to report to the King, to Madame de Beaujeu, and to the Lord Chancellor,

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that they might not deliver Zizim to any one but the Pope, as the universal pastor of Christendom. The said individual admitted the arguments, and offered, to the extent of his power and ability, to persuade the King and Madame de Beaujeu to the desired result.

Had elicited from another friend, a great prince, supposed to enjoy good credit with Madame de Beaujeu, that she gains much money by this affair, and that the King of Hungary has promised to make her a considerable present, besides what she has already had, before removing Zizim from France. Madame de Beaujeu is very avaricious, and does anything for money, regardless of the honor of God or of the Crown. To thwart this negotiation the Pope must promise her a considerable sum of money before Zizim be removed from France, otherwise, should the Pope take no farther steps, Madame de Beaujeu may, for gain, consent to Zizim being surrendered to the King of Hungary.

Had the Pope's ambassador (Sir John Kendal) come, it would have been advantageous, but there are no tidings of him. The King, the Chancellor, and other noblemen to whom I had announced his arrival, perceiving that he has not come, suspect that this has been a device of mine to thwart the negotiations of the King of Hungary.

The Hungarian Ambassador leaves today on his way to the Court. Will depart tomorrow, and by all ways and means endeavour to prevent him from attaining his object.

Ex Oppido Vallis (Laval), 13 September 1487.

[*Italian, 75 lines.*]

Sept. 15. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta v. xxxiii. p. 105.

**523.** The DOGE and SENATE to HIERONIMO ZORZI, Ambassador in France.

Had received the ambassador's letters of the 15th August, and understand the difficulties in which the affair of the indemnity for the merchants who suffered loss through the capture of the Flanders galleys is involved. Surprised at such unexpected abandonment of all justice and equity, both by reason of the merits of the case as well as on account of the State's ancient devotion to the progenitors of the King of France. Do not however doubt but that the Republic's subjects will obtain satisfaction. Should the ambassador perceive that neither justice nor any act of his are of use, and that no hope remains of obtaining the suit committed to him, he is to employ all diligence, and remain with his Majesty aforesaid until he witness the result of the negotiations, both of the Bishop of Waradin, the ambassador of the King of Hungary, and likewise of the Reverend Lord Prior (*sic*) of England (Sir John Kendal), the nuncio of the supreme Pontiff and of the Grand Master of Rhodes, to whom the ambassador is to show every favour, in order that the Pope may obtain possession of the person of Sultan Zizim.

On the departure of those ambassadors from the kingdom, whether they obtain the aforesaid Sultan Zizmi or not, or should it chance that, before the departure of both of them, one of the two obtain and hold Zizim,—in that case Zorzi to declare to the King of France, although unable to obtain what justice and the Republic's

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devotedness required, nevertheless he did not doubt but that his Majesty would give satisfaction.

Proposed letter to the Ambassador aforesaid:—

The Reverend Lord Prior of England of the order of St. John's of Jerusalem, is on his way to the King of France, and we have given him credentials. The Prior has been sent by the Supreme Pontiff, and by the Grand Master of Rhodes, that he may negotiate the affair of Sultan Zizim. Enjoin you to lend him all your favour, so that the wish of the Pontiff may take effect.

Postscript.—Received your letters of the 15th August, and thereby learn the difficulty touching the recovery of the goods of our merchants damnified by the capture of the Flanders galleys. Greatly marvel at this, as at variance with justice and equity, and remote from our expectation. Doubt not, however, that our citizens and merchants will obtain that satisfaction which is their due. You will in no wise depart from the order and power which we gave you, but employ all diligence for the attainment of this very reasonable desire.

Ayes, 62–99. Noes, 6. Neutrals, 6–4.

[*Latin, 75 lines.*]

Sept. 28. **524.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. xii. p. 122.

The London factory, by reason of the constant and excessive costs incurred, owing to the change in the kingdom, and the frauds of many of your own subjects who have not paid what they owe to the factory, has debts amounting to about 8,000 ducats. This result is not only insupportable considering the small business done on that voyage, but, unless speedy and opportune provision be made, will compel our merchants to abandon that island to their great loss and detriment, and not a little to the shame of our Signory; and therefore it will be put to the ballot, that all our citizens and merchants who shall convey merchandise and goods of any sort soever, by our galleys and ships, or by any other foreign vessel to England, be bound to pay the quota and the loan to our consul in London, according to custom, the consul not to excuse any from paying what they owe for the quota and the loan, but to exact payment from all indiscriminately under penalty of 500 ducats.

The masters and writers of our galleys and ships to be bound within three days of their arrival to give a true account of their cargoes under penalty of 200 ducats.

The goods not to be consigned without a licence from the consul, he being bound annually to transmit the factory registers to the officials for the Old Accounts, showing the debtors and creditors, as decreed under penalty of 500 ducats.

As on the 24th February 1463–4, it was enacted by the Senate that all cloths and every other sort of merchandise exported from England (in Venetian bottoms) for Spain, Barbary, Majorca, and Sicily, were to pay five pence sterling in the pound to the London factory, which has not been enforced for many years owing to the negligence of the consuls; at the present time, owing to the debt of the factory, be it enacted that henceforth all exporters of cloths and everything else from England for the countries aforesaid do pay

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five pence sterling in the pound to the factory, in like manner as paid by them on the goods they ship for Venice, under penalty, &c. &c.

The consul to make diligent inquiry about defaulters through the London customhouse, &c.

All persons bringing goods to Venice in Venetian ships or galleys from the west, should they not exhibit a certificate from the consul showing payment of the quota, to pay the same to the officials for the Old Accounts, with a fine of 4*d.* in the pound, &c., &c., and on removing goods from the west, from the custom house, the regulations enacted on the 26th September 1480, to be observed.

The consul in London together with the Council of Twelve to elect annually two Venetian merchants, that they together with the consul's successor may revise the accounts of the factory; the merchants and consuls thus elected being authorized to reform such things as shall appear to them in their consciences detrimental to the factory.

The officials for the Old Accounts in Venice to remit periodically to the consul in London all moneys levied for account of the factory.

Finally, the consul in London within four years from this time to pay the balance of the said quota, under penalty of 1,000 ducats and ineligibility to any office for five years; future consuls to pay the balance of the quota every two years, in like manner.

Ayes, 93. Noes, 3. Neutrals, 10.

The letters were made out on the 11th of October 1487.

[*Italian, 63 lines.*]

Dec. 17.
St. Mark's Library.

**525.** The CARDINAL of ANGERS to the Right Rev FATHER in CHRIST and LORD ———.

Announces the appointment by Pope Innocent VIII. of Pietro de Monte Molin to be Bishop of Morocco, and licensing him to receive consecration in Oxford or elsewhere.

Rome, 17 December 1487.

[*Original, paper,* 14 *lines.*]

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Jan. 4.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxiii. p. 122.

**526.** PROPOSED LETTER from the DOGE and SENATE to HIERONIMO ZORZI, Ambassador in France.

Had given him permission to return home some eight days after the departure from France of the Grand Prior (*sic*) of England (Sir John Kendal) and the Bishop of Varadino; but as Sir John Kendal, after executing his Holiness's commission, continued to remain in France on account of fresh orders received from his own King of England, the ambassador is to take leave of his Most Christian Majesty immediately, recommending to him the affair of the indemnity, and return to Venice together with his secretary.

On his way home, if within one day's journey of him, is to visit the "condottiere," Jacopo Galeotto, inquiring about his eyesight in the Signory's name, and offering him military service.

Ayes, 43.

[*Latin,* 33 *lines.*]

Jan. 10.
Senato Mar. v. xii. p. 129.

**527.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Received a letter from the captain, Andrea Sanudo, declaring that for want of 4,000 ducats, the galleys are unable to depart.—Put to

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the ballot, that 4,000 ducats be raised by allowing the contractors a discount of 20 ducats per cent. on the freight of their wools; of 24 ducats on cloths; and of 4¾ ducats on tin; and should they themselves not be freighters, any other person to make the deposit in their name, and take the benefit. Should it be impossible to raise the money on these terms, the State attorneys, under penalty of 1,000 ducats each, to compel the partners and securities of said galleys, namely the "Dandola" and the "Moceniga," to disburse 4,000 ducats, or fitting and sufficient bills of exchange to that amount payable at sight.

Moreover, as owing to the duty recently imposed by the King the galleys cannot be dispatched within the period assigned for their demurrage, nor have they even begun to load, most especially as the merchants and masters were in hopes of some messenger with letters from our Signory to the King aforesaid on account of the above-written duty, &c. &c.,—be it enacted, to protract the period of "demurrage" for 25 days after the arrival of the messenger.

Moreover, that letters be written to the King of England and to other quarters where necessary about the duty, as shall seem fit to the College.

The captain authorized to have the galley "Dandola" repaired, if necessary.

Ayes, 131. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 5.

[*Italian*, 41 *lines.*]

May 12. St. Mark's Library.

**528.** CARDINAL of ANGERS to the RIGHT REV. FATHER ———.

Announcing the appointment by Pope Innocent VIII., this day of the Rev. Father Augustus Chirche, Abbot of St. Mary of Thame, diocese of Lincoln, to be Bishop of Lidda, in partibus Infidelium.

Rome, 12 May 1488.

[*Original, paper*, 18 *lines.*]

May 16. St. Mark's Library, Cl. x. Cod. clxxvi. No. 47.

**529.** PROTHONOTARY ANTHONY FLORES, Papal Nuncio in France, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Ambassadors from England and from Britanny had been sent to the King of France to treat of peace.

Ex Magduni (Mehun), 16 May 1488.

[*Holograph. Latin*, 12 *pages folio.*]

May 17. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxiii. p. 137.

**530.** The DOGE and SENATE to GIOVANNI PIETRO STELLA, Venetian Secretary in France.

Since the return of the ambassador Zorzi have only received one of his letters. Surprised at such delay, especially as he has no lack of messengers by way of Milan, and through other channels. He is to write with the diligence usually employed by him on other occasions. Sends the present courier post haste, because informed by Pietro Malipiero, captain of the galleys on their voyage to Flanders, by letter dated in the port of Hampton on the 5th of April last, that in those seas there were twenty-five French ships, fitted out at Honfleur, commanded by one St. Germain, who was watching to attack the galleys, so that, unless the captain took precautionary

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measures, some accident might occur. Had likewise heard that these French ships waited for the next squadron of the Republic's galleys on its return from the eastward. Are no less surprised than troubled and displeased at this intelligence, as it ill becomes the peace and friendship existing between France and the Republic, still less the loving words of his most Christian Majesty, and the offers made by him and his whole court to the ambassador, as very well known to the secretary, who was present; a promise having also been given that no ships soever should be fitted out in that kingdom, unless they gave sufficient and fitting security not to damage Venetian subjects, under which guarantee they all were navigating freely and in security.

Desire him to demand audience of the King,—to complain to him accordingly of the evil intention of his captain, and of his project against the two squadrons, the one going and the other returning,—and to request him to provide for the observance of the mutual agreements, so that the galleys may navigate in safety.

To this effect the secretary is to use every exertion, and likewise to obtain written safeconducts and mandates, addressed to said royal commander and others, as shall seem fit. These he is to forward instantly, regardless of expense, by the speediest messengers to the captain of the Flanders galleys at Hampton, giving him notice of what has been done, together with a warning no more to rely on any safeconducts or mandates soever, than if he had nothing of the sort, and to steer his course with all care and caution, for the avoidance of any disaster.

As the King may chance to be going from one place to another, send the secretary a bill of exchange for 200 ducats, lest from lack of money he be prevented following him and obeying these most important orders.

Letters in accordance with the foregoing to be sent to the two captains of the Flanders galleys on their outward and homeward voyage; to the Bishop of Trau, requesting him to act as the colleague of Giovanni Pietro Stella, the secretary. If the latter by any accident should not find himself on the spot, the Bishop is then requested to open the present letters, and carry out their contents.

Moreover, that the King of England be written to in this matter as shall seem fit to the College.

Ayes, 128. Noes, 1. Neutrals, 1.

[*Latin*, 58 *lines*.]

July 16. **531.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Archives, Venice, Library. Has written often to his Holiness touching the ability and merits of John de Giglis, his Holiness' collector in England. Entreats his Holiness, as many English subjects require dispensations and cannot afford to go to Rome or to send thither, that the collector may be invested with the powers exercised by other collectors of the Apostolic see in England.

Windsor, 16th day of July 1488.

*Signed:* "Henricus Rex."

[*Original, parchment. Latin*, 11 *lines*.]

1488.
Aug. 6. St. Mark's Library.

**532.** LORENZO DE' MEDICI to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Robert the Englishman, the bearer of the present letter, is going to his Holiness to obtain a brief to the King of England, for the purpose which his Holiness will learn from the Florentine ambassador and from Robert. Beseeches his Holiness to give Robert audience and grant his request, as the Queen (of England) has written very warmly on this matter.

Florence, 6th of August 1488.

*Signed:* "Lorenzo de Medici."

[*Original. Italian, 7 lines, paper.*]

Aug. 20. St. Mark's Library.

**533.** The KNIGHTS OF RHODES, Guy de Blanchefort, Prior of Auvergne, and Sir John Kendal, Turcopolier, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Acquaint the Pope that the affair of the brother of the Grand Turk (Zizim) is in a fair way, and permission may be conceded to remove Zizim to some castle subject to the Roman Church near the sea, and to keep him there until the arrival of a Rhodian ship, and until other necessary arrangements be made for his removal. Request the Pope to consult the Cardinal of Anjou, the "Protector" of the Order of St. John's, on the subject.

From Bourganeuf, the 20th of August 1488.

[*Original. Latin, 11 lines, paper.*]

Sept. 20. St. Mark's Library.

**534.** KNIGHTS OF RHODES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

A long and interesting letter concerning the removal of Sultan Zizim from France to Rome.

Bourganeuf, in Auvergne, 20th Sept. 1488.

*Signed:* "The Prior of Auvergne and the Turcopolier of Rhodes—"Fra" John Chendal, "Fra" G. Blanchefort."

[*Original. Italian, 84 lines, paper.*]

Oct. 5. MS. in St. Mark's Library, No. 178.

**535.** GIOVANNI DE GIGLIS, Collector of Peter's Pence in England, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Announces receipt of a brief dated 3rd June, desiring him to apply to the Archbishop of Canterbury for redress against some Franciscan Friars, who last Lent, under pretence of certain indulgences, collected pecuniary alms in England. Had the brief been delivered in due time, its injunctions would have been most punctually obeyed; but now, as the Friars have long since betaken themselves with the money to Paris, whence they came, it cannot be recovered here, though otherwise all parties would have endeavoured, as fitting to obey the papal order; and the collector expresses his belief that the money might be easily recovered from the convent in Paris, which it was said to have reached. The death of the Duke of Britanny is reported, and that well nigh the whole province is already in the hands of the French, or about to pass into their possession. Flanders is in the situation known to your Holiness. At Calais, an English city in France across the Channel, a French plot has been discovered, about which a great stir was made at first, but now it does not seem so perilous an affair. The King has reinforced the garrison with 1,500 soldiers, artillery and stores. There are ambassadors here from the Commons of Flanders, and some are also

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expected from the King of the Romans. Anticipates the renewal of commerce which had been interrupted for many years; but is apprehensive of war with France. Negotiations are on foot for an alliance between the King of England and the King of Castile, and for the marriage of their children; though this is not yet public. Henry VII. expects to hold a parliament shortly, in which all matters will be discussed, and the collector will then transmit more certain intelligence. The Archbishop of Canterbury (John Morton) is prime minister, well adequate to everything, excellently deserving of the Apostolic see and of his Holiness, and worthy of honour. Cannot either omit mentioning the very good will borne towards the Pope by the King's Procurator at the Roman court, the Bishop of Limerick (John Dunmow), which entitles him to commendation, &c.

London, 5 Oct. 1488.

[*Latin*, 34 *lines.*]

Oct. 27. St. Mark's Library.

**536.** JOHN BALUE, CARDINAL of ANGERS, to ———.

Writes that when the see of Ardfert became vacant by the death of Maurice Stack, who died "extra Romanam Curiam," Pope Pius II. appointed first, the late John Stack, who having neglected to receive consecration, forfeited his right to the bishopric, which was then conferred on John Pig. After a while John Pig resigned the see into the hands of Pope Sixtus IV., who conferred the vacant see on Philip Stack, who obtained investiture and was consecrated. John Stack then asserted that he had in due season obtained consecration, and a dispute concerning the government and administration of that church arose between John Stack and Philip Stack, each of them acting as Bishop of Ardfert, when John Stack died, extra Romanam Curiam; whereupon, on the 27th October 1488, in his secret consistory, Pope Innocent VIII., on the report of the Cardinal of Angers, reinstated the said Lord Philip Stack as Bishop of Ardfert, &c. &c.

*Signed:* "Servant, John Cardinal of Angers, with my own hand, Rome, 27 October, 5th year of our Lord's pontificate."

[*Original. Latin*, 30 *lines, paper.*]

Nov. 10. Archives, Venice, Library.

**537.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Has already written often touching the Reverend Lord John (Morton), Archbishop of Canterbury, and most earnestly recommends him to his Holiness for the dignity of the cardinalate. And as, contrary to the expectation of himself and of his kingdom, this promotion has been delayed, requests that at the next creation of cardinals, which he has heard is doubtless to take place towards Christmas, his Holiness will be pleased to promote the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury to be cardinal.

His Holiness would thus do a thing most gratifying to the King and the realm, seeing that they have been so long without such primary light of ecclesiastical dignity, as much to inconvenience the commonwealth.

From our palace at Westminster, 10th day of November 1488.

*Signed:* "Henricus Rex."

[*Original. Latin*, 11 *lines, parchment.*]

1488.
Nov. 12. **538.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Archives, Venice, Library. The Lord Adrian, appointed nuncio for the kingdom of Scotland being for just reasons recalled from his Scottish journey, has remained some days in this realm. Glad to see him, on account of his own merits and virtues, and out of regard and consideration for his Holiness. Begs his Holiness to confer fitting benefits and favours on him, and to grant him that marriage dispensation about which his Holiness is informed.

From our palace at Westminster, 12th day of November 1488.

*Signed:* "Henricus Rex."

[*Original. Latin,* 11 *lines, parchment.*]

Nov. 12. **539.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Archives, Venice, Library. Requests him to include, in the next creation of cardinals, his own kinsman, Lorenzo Cibo, Archbishop of Benevento and Warder of the Castle of St. Angelo.

Westminster, 12th day of November 1488.

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin,* 10 *lines, parchment.*]

Nov. 12. **540.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Archives, Venice, Library. Understanding that there is to be a creation of cardinals, recommends for inclusion in it, Nicholas (Cibo), Archbishop of Cosenza, president of the Apostolic treasury.

*Dated, signed, and addressed like the foregoing.*

[*Original. Latin,* 8 *lines, parchment.*]

Nov. 12. **541.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Archives, Venice, Library. Recommends the Pope's kinsman, the prothonotary Battista de' Pinelli, as worthy of being raised to the rank of cardinal.

*Dated, signed, and addressed like the foregoing.*

[*Original. Latin,* 15 *lines, parchment.*]

Nov. 12. **542.** RICHARD [FOX], BISHOP OF EXETER, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library. Dom. Adrian, appointed nuncio to Scotland, has been well received in England, and the Bishop showed him all good will and affection.

London, 12 November 1488.

*Signed:* "Ricardus Exonien. presbyter."

[*Original. Latin,* 8 *lines, paper.*]

Nov. 13. **543.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Archives, Venice, Library. Recommends Dom. Falco de Sinibaldi, prothonotary, and beseeches his Holiness, at the next creation of cardinals, which according to report will take place before Christmas, to promote him to that grade.

Westminster, the 13th day of November 1488.

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin,* 16 *lines, parchment.*]

1488.
Nov. 18.
Senato Mar. v. xii. p. 157.

**544.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the MALMSEY TRADE with ENGLAND.

It is necessary to provide that all foreign ships and barques which trade every year to Candia to load Malmseys for the west, to the detriment of Venetian ships, do no longer trade, but make way for such Venetian ships as go on the Flanders voyage.

And as the said ships take low freights, that is to say, four ducats per butt, while Venetian ships cannot load under seven ducats, it is put to the ballot, that those who load wines in Candia on board foreign ships after 1st March 1489, for conveyance westward, do pay a duty in Candia (in addition to the ordinary duties) of four ducats on each butt containing 48 Venetian gallons, which moneys to be expended on the fortifications of Candia.

Of the payment of this duty shippers of Malmseys for the west must obtain certificates. If they have none and be fallen in with by the Senate's galleys, their ships and cargo will be confiscated, half to go to the captor, and half to the governor who passes sentence; but they may not make any division without licence from the Signory. The present decree may not be repealed, nor any amendment to it proposed save by a majority of three fourths of the College, under penalty of 1,000 ducats to be levied by the State attorneys.

For execution of this present order, to the effect that Venetian ships do load Malmseys for the west, and that Venetians may build large ships, provision must be made that ships loading Malmseys may have suitable terms on their return from the west.

Be it enacted, with regard to that the Signory's ships and those of its subjects which convey Malmseys to the west, and on their return load salt at Ivica for this town, whereas the salt office pays one ducat ready money per bushel, and seven ducats by instalments, so for the future they shall receive four ducats per bushel ready money.

Our forefathers always took care that there should be a good number of large ships in this city for the maintenance of the navy, but at present there is no ship of upwards of one thousand tons burden.

It is therefore put to the ballot, that those who build in this city a ship of the burden of a thousand tons below deck, do receive the bounty of 3,000 ducats, and as much more at the same rate as the burden below deck shall exceed a thousand tons. These moneys to be paid, half when the ship is groined and planked externally, and half when launched and black in the water.

Ayes, 74.

Proposed amendment, that this present Act concerning the exportation of wines from Candia take effect in August next.

Ayes, 46.

Nov. 18.
Senato Mar. v. xii. p. 156.

**545.** MOTION made in the SENATE concerning the shipment at Candia of wines for Western Europe in foreign bottoms, to the utter ruin of the Venetian navy.

[*Latin, 66 lines.*]

1488.
Dec. 29. **546.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. For election of a successor to captain Piero Malipiero, deceased, from amongst merchants actually resident in England. He is to receive a salary of 100 ducats for the voyage (the sum to be raised by an average), and to take the command within four days after the arrival of the messenger in London. Should he not do this, the next nominee to take his place.

In order to provide for the payment of the crews, officials, and craftsmen of the galleys, the captain now appointed to pay a quarter's wages where due, &c., estimating the ducat, in England, at the exchange of the day; so, including money paid at Venice, at Sluys, and in England, they will receive three quarters' pay. To obtain funds, be the Act passed on 13th October last renewed, allowing a discount to merchants contracting for the loan, thus: for each bale of cloth loaded 12 crowns, at the rate of 40 pence per crown; for each bag of wool 3 crowns; for each piece of tin, half a crown, &c.

Ayes, 96. Noes, 43. Neutrals, 24.

| | |
|---|---|
| Elected captain of the Flanders galleys | "Ser" Alvise Moro. |
| Second nominee - - - - | Pietro Justiniano. |
| Third nominee - - - - - | Giovanni Alvise Duodo. |

[*Italian*, 43 *lines.*]

Dec. **547.** ENCOUNTER between ENGLISH and VENETIAN SHIPS.

St. Mark's Library. On Christmas Day, the 25th, whilst the Doge and the ambassadors were attending the sermon in St. Mark's Church, letters arrived from London addressed to the Florentine, Giovanni Frescobaldo, a money changer and usurer, dated 3rd November, stating that the Flanders galleys, Piero Malipiero captain, having left Antwerp for Hampton on 26th October, when sailing off St. Helen's, were fallen in with by three English ships, which wanted them to strike sail. The galleys, seeing they were English, drew nigh, saying they were friends. Then the English endeavoured to take the galleys, but the master blew his whistle and beat to quarters, and the crews killed eighteen of the English, the ships pursuing the galleys into Hampton harbour. The captain wrote about the injury done him to the King, who sent the Bishop of Winchester to say he was not to fear, as those who had been killed must bear their own loss, and that a pot of wine would settle the matter.

Subsequently the Venetian ambassador at Milan, Almorò Barbaro, wrote that Captain Piero Malipiero had died; so on the 29th December Alvise Moro was elected in his stead, and accepted the office.

[*Sanuto's Autograph Lives of the Doges, vol. iii., p.* 310.]

1489.
Jan. 2. **548.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Venetian Archives, Library. The sword and hat sent to us by you we received with great joy and gladness.

Touching the crusade and the alum, concerning which two matters

1489.

Persio Malvezzi explained your Holiness's desire, our wish is to do your bidding. As to the crusade, however, our subjects at this moment are so burdened by payment of a subsidy for urgent public concerns, that we see at once the impossibility of effecting this, save at great inconvenience, and with much murmuring from the people; though should an opportunity present itself, we would willingly accede to your wishes; and desire you to exhort by letter the King of the French, and other Christian princes our neighbours, to grant the Roman Church a similar subsidy, so that the burden be not borne by our realm alone.

Palace at the Charter House (Shene), the second day of January 1488(-89).

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin, 19 lines, parchment.*]

Jan. 15. Archives, Venice, Library.

**549.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Our affection for the memory of James King of Scots causes us not only to lament the shameful murder of that prince, but to commiserate his faithful attendants, who by no fault of theirs have incurred the calamity of exile, and are unjustly punished. Therefore, as Sir John Roos, of Montgrinen, knight, a native of Scotland, illustrious for military science and moral probity, and who was sent ambassador to us to perpetuate the peace between ourselves and his late prince, has been doomed to exile—not from any fault or misdemeanor, but merely for this one reason, that like a faithful servant he adhered to his sovereign—we implore you to write to the King now reigning over the Scots to receive Sir John Roos into his kingdom and restore him to his former estate.

Westminster, 15 January 1488(-89).

*Signed:* "Henricus Rex."

[*Original. Latin, 16 lines, parchment.*]

Jan. 28. St. Mark's Library.

**550.** The Collector GIOVANNI DE GIGLIS to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Wrote not many days ago touching the arrival of Persio Malvezzi, the Pope's chamberlain, with the blessed sword and cap of maintenance which were sent to the King, and about his honourable reception. It certainly could not have been more honourable. Obtained audience of the King through the Archbishop of Canterbury. Announced the Pope's commissions. The Archbishop and the Bishop of Exeter, who are all powerful with him, stood by and favoured us, especially the Archbishop, who in all the affairs of your Holiness exerts himself with singular affection. By reason of much public business have not as yet had a positive reply.

Shortly after the Christmas holidays went with the Dom. Perseo to the King, when his Majesty himself made many loving speeches about your Holiness, saying he had nothing more at heart, than when the preparations of Christendom shall be matured, to proceed against the Infidels; he added that he was not meditating anything against the King of the French, but he is compelled at present to defend the Breton interests, both on account of the immense benefits conferred on him by the late Duke in the time of his misfortunes, and likewise for the defence of his own kingdom; the affairs of

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Britanny being so bound up with those of England, that the latter are necessarily endangered by the Breton catastrophe; and that he has sent ambassadors to the King of the French for peace, which if effected, all will be well; but if not, he has determined to defend Britanny and the orphan Duchess with all his might.

Ambassadors have also been sent to the King of Castile, to confirm the confederacy which was well nigh concluded here, in which there is a clause about a marriage to be contracted between the only son of the King and one of the daughters of the aforesaid King of Castile.

An embassy has been dispatched to the King of the Romans and the Flemings to arrange matters at issue, or, if that may not be, at least to make friendship with both, or with one or other of them, whichever will consent to fair terms, so that trade, so long suspended between the parties, may be brought back into its accustomed channel.

The parliament, which has been summoned, will commence on the 13th of this month. Its chief care will be to make provision for the war, above all the necessary funds for its prosecution,—a matter of no small difficulty, as for their acquirement, not only on the laity will a heavy burden be laid, but also on the clergy, who, it is said, will be subjected to a tax of three-tenths.

On the settlement of these matters your affair will be discussed. The King, as I said, if his bias can be judged by his words, gave us good hope. The Archbishop of Canterbury will not fail us, and we likewise will use all our energies and solicit assiduously and diligently.

Cannot omit to say a word about the Lord Bishop of ———, the King's ambassador, and your Holiness' most devoted servant, who, in his letters to the King and others, never fails demonstrating his faithful disposition.

The foregoing was written down to the 10th of January, but the messenger has remained here until now.

In the meanwhile the parliament assembled in very great number, and has hitherto discussed the mode of raising money for the war. All agreed to provide the King for three years with 100,000 pounds, equal to 400,500 ducats, three-fourths of which tax is to be borne by the laity, and the fourth part by the clergy; though this is not yet settled, owing to some dispute between the clergy and laity, which last wanted two-thirds of the amount to be laid upon us, and only one third on themselves. At length, after certain special deputations and conferences between the prelates and the temporal peers, they came to the point mentioned by me, and such I believe will be the final resolution.

Subsequently the King determined on mustering an army of 10,000 men, of whom one division will be sent into Britanny, some of these having already gone in advance, another part will be sent to the fleet, and the third to the garrison of Calais and other places held by the King on the confines of France.

Thus has it been decreed for the present: the rest will be regulated and appointed in conformity with the daily need.

London, 28th day of January 1849.

*Signed:* "Jo. de Giglis, collector in England."

[*Original. Latin, 76 lines, paper.*]

1489.
March 19.
St. Mark's Library.

**551.** PERSIO MALVEZZI, Papal Envoy in England, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Acquaint you with the good disposition of the King and the Archbishop of Canterbury. His Majesty has done all that was asked for; nay, more, for he will not appropriate to himself a single ducat derived from the jubilee, regretting the doubts entertained of him, lest, for the reasons assigned in the accompanying letter, you should not obtain as much as he would wish, and as you expected.

He wishes you, at his request, to make Canterbury cardinal, who is thoroughly devoted to the Apostolic see and to you, and acts with integrity by every one else.

On several accounts the Archbishop has not thought fit to assume the responsibility of gathering [the proceeds of] this jubilee, but has chosen the collector and me to execute your intention, and thus according to his opinion we have commissioned all the bishops to collect in their respective dioceses. They all assumed the office willingly, showing themselves well affected towards you, and so I hope things will go better than was expected at first with regard to your not being defrauded; for in truth, so far as I can hear and see, they are all worthy men and of good conscience, and wish well to the Apostolic see. I will endeavour, nevertheless, not to give them much opportunity lest the ready plunder render them thieves.

During the whole of Lent I shall remain with the collector in London, where there is much to do, and also to see how matters proceed, after which I intend to ride all over the kingdom, visiting these prelates, and seeing how things go on. I will then cross over to Ireland, the whole of which we have consigned, with the approval of the Archbishop, to a priest, noble and rich and of good conscience, and who for the fifth part of the total amount will collect the whole entirely at his own cost; but I have sent one of my attendants with him that we may not be flayed by grocers (che non siamo scorti da grosseri). After June I shall go over there with the original [bull], for otherwise they will not believe anything. In this kingdom, which in Italy is supposed to be full of gold and silver, I have seen nothing of the sort as yet; nay, I am told this jubilee will not yield 20,000 ducats, which seems incredible; and they assert that in the time of Pope Sixtus, in the year of the jubilee they got but 18,000 ducats. Had I known this I would never have published the bull until after fully acquainting you, being certain, that for such an amount you would not have placed yourself under obligation to the King. After the publication, however, I did not think fit to draw back, but endeavoured to prove my information false.

By the accompanying letter you will hear all the news of these parts, and how the King has departed to witness the embarkation of 12,000 men, destined for the succour of Britanny; also how the King of the Romans, with the assistance of the English garrison of Calais, lately took St. Thomas, a place in Picardy, of great importance; and already at Landa (Ganda Ghent?) peace has been proclaimed between the King of the Romans and this King, and ambassadors are expected here.

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Concerning the alum the merchants made ludicrous demands, which the King and the Archbishop would not allow to be forwarded; they will see to the settlement of this business, and in such form as to satisfy your Holiness.

Letters have been received here from Master Adrian (Castellesi) to the effect that he is coming, and that his mission is twofold—to bring the hat to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and to discuss the holy crusade. This report I disbelieve, but acquaint you with it that you may consider how such a mission would be at variance with the system hitherto followed, and what a reproach to us here on the spot, in the eyes of this suspicious race, which might readily give out that the bulls were forgeries, and blame me.

Finally, understanding that the kingdom contains 5,000 parishes with cure of souls, I trust certainly to obtain, one with another, not less than a ducat each, and hope even for more, as I see the people daily inclining to do well; so that I am well nigh certain you will obtain your intent, and that you will not be of opinion you have been robbed like Pope Sixtus.

You charged me to give all the money that came into my hands to Sauli, but as even the Genoese here do not give him credit, I do not think fit to trust him without consulting you. In the meanwhile I shall send the first [instalments] by the collector's nephews, who, with Ghinucci, are responsible; the collector guaranteeing you against loss, and the payment to be made without farther rejoinder, although said bank be perchance creditor of the treasury or of your Holiness.

On receiving the money I will do according to your commands. I beseech you occasionally to remember your servant, for at the Court (of Rome) the absent are considered defunct; and also because Master Giovanni (Bentivoglio) does not allow us any longer to enjoy what little we possessed at Bologna; but we must have patience so long as you will it thus. London, 19 March.

*Signed:* "Perseus Malvitius."

[*Original. Italian*, 81 *lines, paper.*]

April 1. St. Mark's Library, Cl. x. clxxvi. 62.

**552.** LIONEL (CHIEREGATO), BISHOP of CONCORDIA, (late of Trau,) Papal Nuncio in France, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

M. de Cordes expected every day. M. de Vendome sent into Picardy with M. Philip Rebesten (Ravenstein), and the Prince of Orange and M. de S. Periaux into Britanny with one of the Breton ambassadors who came to the French King. Though they used fair words about making peace, still they cannot satisfy both parties; and the common opinion is, that peace will certainly not follow. As there is a rumour that the King of Spain is going to send an army against France, the French resolved to send an ambassador to him to learn his intentions.

Prope Cainonem (Chinon), Turoneñ dioc̃, 1 April 1489.

[*Holograph. Extract, Latin.*]

May 9. St. Mark's Library.

**553.** PERSIO MALVEZZI, Papal Envoy in England, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

By my letters you will have heard of the money (tax) imposed

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by the King throughout England to aid Britanny, and a few days ago a great Lord (Henry Percy, 4th Earl of Northumberland,) having proceeded to levy the money in his province to the northward, towards Scotland, certain vassals of his would not submit to the tax, as one hitherto unaccustomed to be raised. The Lord irritated, threatening them with words and deeds, mustered 800 men to capture them by force. On hearing this the rebels, considering that if taken they should lose their lives, became desperate, and including relations and friends, assembled some 500 persons and awaited this Lord. The two parties came to blows: the first person killed was the Lord himself, whose followers then took flight; so there was but little bloodshed, the affair not proceeding farther: nay, the rebels withdrew to their own houses, and repenting them after the fact, sent, two days later, to the King for mercy, promising to do whatever his Majesty shall choose. Notwithstanding this, for the maintenance of justice, and likewise that it may serve as an example for others, the King has determined to punish them, and is still mustering a great number of troops, meaning to go in person, and will set out on Monday or Tuesday. I know not what will be done. Many people say that he will soon make an end of this business, as these rebels have no leader and but little credit. Many, on the contrary, suspect that some great Lord may have a hand in the business, and that it will be worse than others imagine. The result will soon be seen; whereupon I will endeavour immediately to acquaint you with it. On the morrow of the receipt in London of this intelligence the Archbishop of Canterbury came hither on his way to the King, who is 20 miles off. I went with the collector to visit the Archbishop, who told us what you will learn by the joint letter. The King and my Lord of Canterbury are surprised that new cardinals having been made, my Lord of Canterbury should not have been promoted; the King most especially, who has besought you several times. I am of opinion that it would be well for you to write to them, that they may persevere in their good disposition and devotion towards you.

We have, moreover, opened the moneybox which the King was pleased to have at his court; we found in it 11*l.* 11*s.*, which result made our heart sink within us, for there were present—the King, the Queen, the mother of the King and the mother of the Queen, besides dukes, earls, and marquises, and other lords and ambassadors, so that we expected to have much more.

Down to this day we have received 27 dispensations, for which we have had 49*l.* of English money. We have paid the whole sum into the bank, and from time to time will remit the bills of exchange, according to circumstances. We hope to do better for the future with these dispensations, as the thing is already known everywhere.

London, 9 May 1489.

*Signed:* "Perseus Malvitius."

[*Original. Italian, 40 lines, paper.*]

June 28. **554.** HENRY VII. to GIAN GALEAZZO SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Sforza Archives, Milan. Have understood you wish that the ancient union which subsisted between the predecessors of both of us should be confirmed by their

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successors. Have therefore given these presents to Friar John Anthony, our most faithful subject, and the herald of your praises. Should you desire any more special alliance to be contracted, delay not sending word by such envoys as may be suitable.

From our palace at Windsor, 28th day of June 1489.

[*Original. Latin, 52 lines.*]

July 24. Senato Mar. v. xii. p. 175.

**555.** DECREE of the SENATE, caused by the Report of Alvise Moro, captain of the Flanders galleys, recently returned from England.

The Republic's subject, Luke of Liesina, companion (master) on board the said galleys, was at the helm of the flag galley on its arrival from Flanders, when it was insulted by the fleet of the King of England, and many shots were fired, especially at the said Luke, to make him quit the rudder, but he held it most staunchly so that through his constancy the galley escaped the danger aforesaid.

Put to the ballot, that he may make two voyages as "sworn master" on board any of our traffic galleys, at his option; and moreover be he appointed one of the paupers at the pepper warehouse, thus filling up one of the present vacancies.

Ayes, 167. Noes, 2. Neutral, 0.

[*Latin, 12 lines.*]

Oct. 6. St. Mark's Library.

**556.** The PAPAL AMBASSADORS in FRANCE, Lionel Chieregato, Bishop of Concordia, and the Prothonotary A . . . . . Flores, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Received the Pope's brief and copy of protest, with the letter of the Cardinal of Angers (John Balue). The King was gone to Alençon to stand godfather for the Duke of Alençon's son. By reason of this and of the severity of the weather did not go in person to the court, but sent a secretary with letters to the King, Lord de Bourbon, Dom. de Falcone, and others.

Had notified in former letters the arrival at Le Mans of the ambassadors from the King of England, but subsequently stated that the embassy was from the King of the Romans, as they were told by a trustworthy person. The first account, however, was the true one, the embassy being in fact, from the King of England, who thereby made two demands, the one for the restitution of all captures made during the armistice, the nuncios being of opinion that this includes the Genoese ships; the other, that the King of England be restored in full to his pension of 50,000 crowns, which used to be paid him by King Lewis.

These ambassadors have received their final reply from the French King, who proposes sending an ambassador to England, where on St. Luke's Day (October 18), a parliament is to be held, to take into consideration the answers made by France.

The ambassadors of the King of the Romans are in Paris and expected at Tours, for the ratification of the peace already stipulated; the nuncios being of opinion that on the present occasion greater regard will be had for the Pope's honour than was shown in Germany.

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The ambassadors of the King of the English are but two, namely, Sir John Risley and Stephen Frion, the royal secretary, who are speedily to depart, having had their business dispatched on account of the brief period assigned them by their King, in order that they may attend the parliament to be held on St. Luke's day, and there report the result of their mission, so that parliament may decide on future operations. According to report, the French ambassador who is to accompany them will be the bearer of such proposals as to guarantee the grant of the demands of the King of England, though as this ambassador is said not yet to have been appointed, the nuncios are unable to give his name.

Have received letters from the "Bailli" of Meaux. Are expecting Dom. de Falcone to return from the court and bring them the minute of a letter written by the King (Charles VIII.) to King Ferdinand, but suspect that Dom. de Falcone will have sent it direct to the Cardinal of Angers.

Have no other news worth notifying.

Tours, 6 October, 1489.

[*Original. Latin, 53 lines, paper.*]

1490. **557.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Feb. 10. Venetian Archives, Library.

We will not decide how great the difference may be between the Carthusian and Cistercian orders, as regards religious perfection and rule, though convinced that the strictness of the Carthusian rule exceeds that of all other orders soever, in such wise that, as the sacred canons permit the passage from a more lax mode of life to one more strict, it does not seem conformable to reason that any one professed of the Carthusian order should return in any manner to a rule less strict.

Some years ago, a certain Cistercian monk, a man of levity and inconstancy, after obtaining permission from his abbot, transferred himself to a monastery of the Carthusian order; he made his solemn and expressed profession, remained there during seven consecutive years, and then changing his mind unexpectedly, again returned to his former Cistercian place. This he did at a hint from his first abbot, who asserted that the order of Citeaux was so privileged, that its professed brethren could not canonically pass to any other order whatever it might be, not even to one more strict in rule.

On this account, no slight dispute and controversy has arisen between these orders of Citeaux and the Carthusians, most especially because they say you have allowed the individual aforesaid to quit the Carthusian house, and remain with the Cistercians, amongst whom he made his first vows. This is asserted to be at variance with privileges conceded by the supreme pontiffs to the Carthusians, you having confirmed and enlarged these privileges, which forbid the secession of any professed Carthusian, without a leaden bull and special privilege.

Hence we request you to settle this question, lest the case of one inconstant man give a bad example to other Carthusians, in which order we know there are some who passed from the Cistercians, men far more perfect than those who originally embraced the severe Carthusian rule, and for whom there is now much to fear, unless

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these beginnings be now checked; lest they, vanquished by the importunities of their abbots, return from fish to flesh, from haircloth to broadcloth, from solitude to society; and lest (which is a still greater peril) this same evil embolden those who quite recently abandoned the world and entered the Carthusian order, again to become wordlings instead of religious, at the instigation of the enemy of mankind.

We refer to the statement of our present envoy and captain, the Prior of Jesus House of Shene, a Carthusian monastery, the foundation which we are bound to protect with peculiar favour and by peculiar right.

Westminster, 10 February 1489(-90).

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin, 25 lines, parchment.*]

Feb. 11. **558.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library, cl. x., clxxvi., 41.

Papal briefs have arrived, directing his colleague, the Bishop of Concordia, to proceed to England to negotiate peace between England and France, which marvellously pleased the King of France, M. and Madame de Bourbon, and the Chancellor. It were advantageous that this peace be concluded on account of the expedition which the Pope wished to have undertaken against the Turks.

The Bishop of Concordia will be back from England in May. Should he not have returned from England in time for the interview which is to take place between the King of the Romans and the King of France, Flores solicits the necessary credentials for himself to Maximilian.

P.S.—This day, 11th February, at 3 p.m., the Bishop of Concordia started for England.

Ex Molinis (Moulins), die quâ supra, 1490.

[*Holograph. Latin, 9 pages folio.*]

Feb. 18. **559.** HENRY VII. to GIAN GALEAZZO SFORZA, DUKE OF MILAN.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

You have declared to us your good will by Dom. Francesco Pagano, your ambassador, who was most welcome. With regard to our mutual friendship, the relationship to be contracted, and to what was done about the Genoese merchants, we explained ourselves fully to him.

Westminster, 18th day of February 1489.

*Signed:* "Henricus R., manu propria."

[*Latin, 62 lines.*]

Feb. 18. **560.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Lib. cl. x. clxxvi. 37.

The disposition of the French Court to make war for the Pope's interests on Ferdinand of Arragon, King of Naples, is impeded by the Breton war. The Prince of Salerno and his colleague the Count of Clermont urge the Italian enterprise, and are in frequent communication with M. and Mme. de Bourbon, M. de Cordes, and the Governor of Burgundy. The Prince of Salerno furnishes minute information how to conduct a war against the kingdom of Naples, of which he has drawn up a map. The affairs of Britanny reported not to be proceeding satisfactorily for the King of France.

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M. de Rohan, who was of the King's party, and who held a great part of Lower Britanny, has been taken by stratagem on his way to a place of recreation, some say by collusion with his adversary; others maintain that it was against his will.

Ex Molinis (Moulins), 18 Feb. 1490.

[*Original. Latin, 3 pages folio.*]

March 11. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. vol. xxxiv. p. 59.

**561.** The DOGE and SENATE to PIETRO CONTARINI, Consul in London.

Understand the Florentines are urging the King of England to establish a wool staple at Pisa; and considering the importance of such a measure, and how injurious it would prove to the Venetian galleys, nation, and merchants, have determined to do their utmost to prevent it, and first of all to write to the King, as by the accompanying copy.

Desires the consul, if he perceive that the Florentines persevere in the project, to present the letter to the King, and endeavour to thwart their negotiations. Send letters to this effect for the Lord Chancellor and the Lord Mayor, with whom the consul is to negotiate, and give daily notice of the result. He is to add adroitly, as if the remark were his own, that the State being well supplied with wool, both from the Venetian provinces and from other places, would not allow Venetian subjects to make purchases at Pisa, nor to import thence wools or anything else to Venice, where the consumption of cloth is very great; so that the scheme would be prevented and prove detrimental to England. If on the receipt of this missive the consul should be aware that the project of the Florentines no longer exist, and that the remonstrances of the Signory are unnecessary, he is to withhold the accompanying letters.

Ayes, 145. Noes, 1. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian, 22 lines.*]

March 11. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. vol. xxxiv. p. 59.

**562.** DOGE AGOSTINO BARBARIGO and the SENATE to KING HENRY VII.

Mindful of the extreme good will and love prevalent between their forefathers and his Majesty's predecessors, in which devotion the State wishes not merely to persevere, but also that it augment towards himself—are therefore at a loss to suppose that anything detrimental to the State, or rather to the King himself and to his subjects, can proceed from him. Make this announcement owing to a report, that he had been tempted by certain parties to establish a staple at Pisa for those wools which hitherto all the merchants of the world had been accustomed to export by sea from England, not a little to the benefit and profit of his own customs and revenues, and to the convenience and satisfaction of his subjects.

Besides many other arguments against this innovation, the State is confirmed in its objection to the project by the following reasons:—

First, that if carried into effect, the galleys and ships of Venice and other foreign nations would thus be prevented from making voyages to England; as, if unable to export wools thence, the motive for conveying thither spices, wine, and the other usual commodities

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from other parts, would doubtless cease, especially as the exportation of gold and silver from England is prohibited.

Secondly, a very strong reason for the State's disbelief in the project is the formal privilege conceded of yore by former Kings of England and confirmed by his Majesty, authorizing the merchants of Venice to export wool; in virtue of which, they themselves went to England and the State sent its galleys thither, relying on the maintenance of the royal promise as peculiar to his Majesty, to whom this announcement is made rather as an act of duty than from necessity, &c. Request the King not to make any innovation at the suit of any person, as besides the inconveniences aforesaid, the plan proposed, under pretence of advantage and profit to the King, would injure other foreign nations, and violate the aforesaid privileges and the royal promise, which should be taken into account above all.

Decree of the Senate for letters of the like tenor as the foregoing to be written by the College and addressed to the Lord Chancellor and the Lord Mayor, as likewise to such other privy councillors as shall seem fit; the College being also commissioned to write on the subject to the Venetian ambassador in Rome.

Ayes, 145. Noes, 1. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin*, 30 *lines.*]

March 15. St. Mark's Library, Cl. x. clxxvi. 43.

**563.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

M. Dunois came as ambassador to the King of France from Britanny; "he was not well looked upon by the King, because he does not say what pleases these people." M. Pierre de S. Serges, a councillor of the French King, is being sent to the King of Romans to arrange about the place where these two sovereigns are to meet.

Lyons, 15 March 1490.

P.S. The French ambassadors who were in England have returned; other ambassadors from the King of England are expected. There is more expectation of war than of peace.

[*Holograph. Latin*, 4 *pages, folio.*]

March 24. St. Mark's Library, Cl. x. clxxvi. 42.

**564.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

The affairs of Britanny and England, which are one and the same, will keep the King fully occupied this summer; nor do I believe he will look to Italian, Neapolitan, or Genoese affairs.

Lyons, 24 March 1490.

[*Holograph. Latin*, 3½ *pages, folio.*]

March 31. Quarantia Criminal, vol. vi. p. 22.

**565.** SENTENCE of the CRIMINAL COURT of the FORTY concerning an English Merchant at Constantinople.

For justice to be administered against the defendant, Francesco Scaffa, master of a ship belonging to the island of Arbe.

During the past months there was loaded on board the said ship at Constantinople, and consigned to the said master by one Richard Pencher, an English merchant, a certain quantity of wax, hides, called "Boldroni," and a chest belonging to said merchant with his money and other effects, with an order for their conveyance to Venice.

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The master with bold daring went out of his course to the city of Scio, and there sold the aforesaid effects and merchandise, opening the chest, and converting everything to his own use, to the defrauding of the merchant and in contempt of our Signory.

By the authority of this Council be he arrested and detained here at Venice, and in all towns and places of our Signory, and passed on to the prisons at Venice at the suit of the State attorney and examined. Should he not confess the truth spontaneously, be a committee formed as usual, the majority of which to be at liberty to question and rack him, acquainting this Council with the result; and be justice done.

If this prosecution however fail to effect his seizure, be he summoned from the steps at Rialto to appear in person before the State attorneys and their tribunal within eight days, to make his defence for what is aforesaid; on the expiration of which term, should he not appear, be he proceeded against, notwithstanding his absence; and our Count at Arbe, on the receipt of this order, shall make inquiry concerning all the property belonging to the master, causing the same to be seized.

[*Latin*, 19 *lines.*]

April 16. **566.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library, Cl. x. clxxvi. 46.

The first President of the Parliament of Paris has been summoned to the court at Amboise touching the English peace.

Ex Ambasia (Amboise), 16 April 1490.

[*Original. Latin*, 3¾ *pages folio.*]

May 6. **567.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library, Cl. x. clxxvi. 74.

A secretary of the Bishop of Concordia arrived on the 23rd, with letters for the French King, M. and Mme. de Bourbon, the Chancellor, the Seneschal of Carcassonne and for Flores. These letters contained what the Bishop had done in England, by order of the Pope, to promote "this peace or truce." Flores immediately presented the messenger to the Chancellor of France, and consigned the letters addressed to that personage. The Chancellor arranged for audience on the following day, at which the King and M. and Mme. de Bourbon were most gracious. After the presentation of the letters, the King and M. and Mme. de Bourbon listened to Flores and the secretary, continually commending what the Bishop of Concordia had done in England in favour of peace; and the King and all the rest decided that the Bishop should hasten his journey back, so as to return as soon as possible. The Seneschal of Carcassonne and the Chancellor urged the Bishop to get back before the departure of the English ambassadors from the French court. Flores and the secretary also had an interview with the English ambassadors, and delivered to them letters from the Bishop of Concordia; and they likewise pressed Flores to hasten the Bishop's return.

On the 30th April the Bishop arrived at the French court, and was extremely well received by the King and the others, and also by

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the English ambassadors. The King personally thanked him for what he had done in England.

Tours, 6 May 1490.

[*Original.* *Latin*, 2 *pages folio.*]

May 21. **568.** JAMES IV. KING of SCOTLAND to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library. Towards the end of last March two letters were brought to me from you by Robert Bishop of Glasgow. You thereby exhorted me, for resistance against the Turk, to send together with the ambassadors of other Kings an ambassador of my own to Rome, as I have done. The Bishop also delivered to me, after long delay, another brief, which urges [the grant of] a pecuniary subsidy for the safeguard of the faith, and that by the 25th of March (the Annunciation) I should forward the same to Rome. This it was impossible for me to do, inasmuch as the letters of your Holiness were brought to me when that day had gone by. Moreover, my kingdom, situated to the west and north, at a very great distance from Rome, does not overflow with silver and gold, although it abounds in other proper commodities.

Since assuming the crown I have exerted myself much to quell the disturbances prevailing in my kingdom, and to reduce it to peace and unity. This, in part accomplished, has exhausted the treasure left by my father. Our old enemies in England also harassed my subjects, whom I have protected against the inroads of their adversaries by my assiduous exertions.

I will endeavour to obey your commands (although I have no store of gold to send) in such wise as not to be outdone either by my late father or by the other princes of Christendom; and shall strive for the honour of the Apostolic see as stoutly and as lovingly as possible.

I have written more at length touching these matters to my procurator, Master Andrew Formann, who will acquaint you with them more fully.

Edinburgh, 21 May 1490.

*Signed:* "James."

[*Original.* *Latin*, 14 *lines, paper.*]

May 26. **569.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. vol. xiii. p. 11. Nothing is better calculated to hinder the project and order given for the wool staple at Pisa than to prevent foreign ships which load English wools from obtaining return cargoes, whilst nothing can more establish the staple, which is so injurious to our interests, than to allow those ships facility for obtaining return cargoes, above all of wines from Candia. As "Ser" Piero Contarini has ordered a ship of his to load some 400 butts there, for conveyance to Pisa, which will be exported thence westward by the same foreign ships and barques that take the wool to Pisa,—Put to the ballot, that "Ser" Piero Contarini be enjoined, under penalty of the confiscation of his ship and its cargo, not to allow the said wines to be landed, either at Leghorn or Pisa, or in any other place from which they could be conveyed in foreign ships westward; though by our own galleys or

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ships he may either send them into the west, or have them brought to this city.

To facilitate his execution of this order, as indemnity in some part for his loss, he is to be paid forthwith one ducat per butt from the moneys of the Signory for the wine, whether sent by him into the west, or brought to Venice on board our galleys. This decree to take effect on all persons shipping wines from Candia for Pisa; and concerning the aforesaid wines conveyed to Rhodes, Scio, and elsewhere, for shipment thence westward on board foreign vessels, such provision to be made as shall seem necessary at the first sitting of the Senate.

Ayes, 20. Noes, 6. Neutrals, 13.

The kinsfolk of "Ser" Piero Contarini were excluded.

On the above written day—as "Ser" Piero Contarini, by indirect means, has infringed the order of this Council by conveying the wines of Candia by foreign ship or ships into the west, to the detriment of our affairs, especially on account of the wool staple ordered to be established at Pisa, and contrary to the decision of the Signory before the departure of his ship from this city.—Put to the ballot, that the foregoing decree be communicated to said "Ser" Piero Contarini, with the exception of the clause in which mention is made of giving him one ducat per butt on the wines sent to him into the west, or to this city.

Ayes, 111.

[*Italian, 42 lines.*]

June 9. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**570.** GIAN GALEAZZO SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN, to HENRY VII.

Announces the return of his ambassador, Francesco Pagnano, who had been residing in England during the last months. Had received the King's letters. Rejoices at the good will borne him by the King. Acknowledges the grant of a safeconduct for Milanese subjects. As an additional proof of his gratitude, accredits to the King the Genoese merchant trading in England, Benetto Spinola, who will not only communicate his written instructions, but detail in full what the Duke had done about the complaints of the Genoese made by English subjects, and how the Genoese replied that there was no reason to complain of them. Requests the King to give credence in this matter to Benetto as to himself.

Pavia, 9 June 1490.

[*Draft. Latin, 60 lines.*]

June 25. St. Mark's Library, Cl. x. clxxvi. 72.

**571.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Yesterday the Bishop of Concordia left on his way to the congress, which is to be held at Boulogne-sur-Mer and Calais, where deputies of the King of France are to meet deputies of the King of England to treat of peace between the two sovereigns. The difficulty will be, as hitherto, relative to including the Duchess of Britanny.

Tours, 25 June.

[*Holograph. Latin, 1 page folio.*]

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July.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**572.** BENEDETTO SPINOLA to GALEAZZO MARIA SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Announces the arrival on the 13th of his Highness's messenger with letters for the King and for himself.

On obtaining audience, found the King in the midst of many Lords. A time appointed for him to make his communication. The King was about to send ambassadors to Rome. They were instructed to present themselves to the Duke, and make a full communication to him.

To Spinola the King said, that from no one did he receive letters more willingly than from the Duke. Concerning the safeconduct conceded to the Milanese and to other subjects of the Duke, and the repeal of the reprisals, in this and other similar matters he was ready to oblige the Duke to the utmost.

With regard to the understanding between them, the King had empowered his ambassadors, by whom he was sending the authentic instrument of agreement, in the same form as the document sent by by the Duke to Spinola, who had therefore no occasion to use the power of attorney with which he had been provided.

Touching the matrimonial alliance between the Duke and the King as negotiated lately by "Messer" Francesco Pagnano, Spinola made the announcement as commanded, and from what he could understand, the King seemed much inclined towards the relationship, but said that the negotiation for the marriage of the Lady Anne with the cousin of the King of Portugal was not yet completed, but that he was daily expecting ambassadors from the King of Portugal on the subject, as the Duke would hear from the English ambassadors on their way to Rome. Should the Lady Anne not be at liberty, there would remain the Lady Catherine. Concerning the dower, Spinola let his Majesty know, in becoming language, that the like custom does not prevail in Italy amongst potentates as that which the King said was usual in this country, and that it would be fitting for his Majesty to weigh all things. To this the King answered, that as these ladies were asked of him by great personages, both Englishmen and aliens, without any dower, for the mere sake of the connection and friendship, he did not think it fitting that such a thing should be demanded. Nevertheless, should the marriage take place, it would be his care to send the bride in honourable form as becoming the Duke's daughter-in-law, the daughter of so great a King, and the sister of a Queen, as he would cause the Duke to be informed by his ambassadors.

As to the affair of the new regulation about the wools,* he made the statement enjoined him, but the King gave no further reply. Spinola is of opinion that this proceeds from his having undertaken the matter in such form, and given such promises, that he thinks he cannot retract. Possibly the ambassadors on their way to Rome may be commissioned to discuss this matter with the Duke.

The King had heard that the Duke had written to Genoa about

* Query, the project for an English wool staple at Pisa.

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the complaints made by the English against the Genoese there, desiring them, were the case such as represented, to apply a suitable remedy; and that they exculpated themselves according to the tenour of the document now transmitted by the Duke. With this the King seemed satisfied, though he told Spinola that, on the dispatch of certain business with which he is now occupied on account of the French war, he will have the matter examined by his Council, and make such answer as shall seem fit.

There is but little to write about the state of the kingdom, as it is in very good condition. Yesterday the King quitted London to ride through the country for the purpose of mustering his troops; he is forming a powerful force both by sea and land. It is suspected that the war between his Majesty and France will continue, and although the ambassadors of both sovereigns are on the borders negotiating truces through the papal legate, yet it is the general opinion that neither peace nor truce will ensue, unless the French desist from the undertaking against Britanny.

Should he hear anything farther, Spinola will endeavour to give the Duke notice of it.

London, July 1490.

*Signed:* "Benedictus Spinula."

[*Italian*, 180 *lines.*]

July 1. Venetian Archives, Library.

**573.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

About a year ago the Duchess of Britanny intimated to us there had been nominated and presented to the church of Nantes by her father and herself one Master Gnegnen, whom the chapter of the Church of Nantes solemnly elected; but that you, at the suggestion of the King of the French, appointed to the said church one Robert de Spinay, a man suspect and objectionable to herself, to her government, and her country. She asked us to intercede with your Holiness that the election of Guillaume Gnegnen should be confirmed, and that the Apostolic promotion of Robert de Spinay might be annulled.

We, who have assumed the protection of that duchy, therefore wrote earnestly to your Holiness to confirm the aforesaid capitular election, and cancel that Apostolic provision. Being, however, assured by the Duchess that her wishes have not yet been complied with, we again intercede with you to yield to her just suit, and finally that you will give credence to our procurators in this matter, Sir David Williams, Master of our Rolls, and Sir John de Giglis, collector in our realm.

Greenwich, 1 July 1490.

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin*, 24 *lines, parchment.*]

July 5. St. Mark's Library, Cl. x. clxxvi. 69.

**574.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

On the 27th ultimo, ambassadors arrived from the Emperor and from the King of the Romans. With them came Monsignor Raymond Peraud, Archdeacon of Xaintes, who told Flores that he came to assist the ambassadors in order to complete the business of the peace, of which he alleged he was himself the author, and

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to promote the expedition appointed against the Turks. Flores answered that the Pope desired peace, and never failed to induce the French to that end. Peraud seems a worthy but loquacious and vain man: his participation in this embassy is merely nominal and ceremonial; but he maintains a multitude of couriers, and sends them off with the earliest news, to gain personal importance. The embassy urges the liberation of the Duke of Orleans, the evacuation of the towns in Britanny, and peace with that country. All is in suspense and nothing settled.

Tours, 5 July 1590.

[*Original. Latin, 4 pages folio.*]

July 13. **575.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library, Cl. x. clxxvi. 56.

Peraud, Archdeacon of Xaintes, styles himself a legate sent by the Pope to treat for peace. Flores complains of the indignity thus put upon himself and the Bishop of Concordia. The French King will not desert the Flemings; he will not deliver up the castles in Britanny, because the English are not yet driven out, who, before such delivery, were to have been expelled by the Duchess. The Duke of Orleans is not to be released. No news from the Bishop of Concordia. The greatest preparations are being made for war, of which there is more chance than of peace.

Tours, 13 July 1490.

*Signed.*

[*Original. Latin, 4⅔ pages folio.*]

July 15. **576.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Venetian Archives, Library.

As John de Giglis is recalled to Rome, we greatly lament his departure, and cordially desire his return may tend to the increase of his reputation and preferment. As a manifest indication of this our desire, we have chosen him to be one of our procurators and ambassadors to you, and recommend him to you.

Greenwich, 15 July 1490.

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin, 18 lines, parchment.*]

July 15. **577.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT the VIII.

Venetian Archives, Library.

The Lord Adrian de Castelli, your collector for this our kingdom, informed us that you were gratified by the patent of naturalization granted to your nephew the Lord John Baptist (Cibo); we are glad indeed that you should have comprehended our readiness to comply with your wish.

The Lord Adrian negotiated with us about the affairs of the said Lord John Baptist, the matter of peace with the French, and the Deanery of Chester. He will acquaint you [with our opinions] with regard to the Priory of St. John of Jerusalem, and other matters about which you wrote to us. Your Holiness shall fully know our mind from our procurators and ambassadors, Sir David Williams, Keeper of our Rolls, and also Sir John de Giglis, late your collector in this our realm.

Greenwich, the 15th day of July 1490.

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin, 11 lines, parchment.*]

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July 15. **578.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Venetian Archives, Library.

After the unexpected death of the Bishop of Limerick, our procurator, we had determined long ago to send procurators and ambassadors to your Holiness. We have therefore sent Sir David Williams and Sir John de Giglis as our procurators and ambassadors to you, whom we pray you to receive graciously for our sake.

Greenwich, the 15th day of July 1490.

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin,* 18 *lines, parchment.*]

July 16. **579.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library, Cl. x. clxxvi. 55.

The ambassadors of Britanny arrived today.

Tours, 16 July 1490.

[*Holograph. Latin,* 4½ *pages folio.*]

July 18. **580.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library, Cl. x. clxxvi. 53.

To-day the ambassadors of Britanny are in great discussion with the deputies of the King, and with the ambassadors of Maximilian and the Emperor, about peace. The Bretons are asked to expel the English, and then the places which the King holds in Britanny will be evacuated, for it was so stipulated at Frankfort and in Ulm. The Bretons say they cannot expel the English, because the English are the stronger, and that therefore a period of six months should be given them for such expulsion. The King would have the English expelled within a month. In the midst of these altercations nothing is yet concluded. Between today and tomorrow peace or war will be determined.

Tours, 18 July 1490.

[*Holograph. Latin,* 1 *page.*]

July 21. **581.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Venetian Archives, Library.

As our mother the Lady Margaret, Countess of Richmond and Derby, is desirous that the chapel which she has chosen for her sepulture may be distinguished by Apostolic indulgences, she has besought us to intercede with your Holiness to grant, as well for the soul of our said mother as for the souls of those deceased, for whom masses shall be celebrated in the said chapel chosen for her sepulture, the indulgences and remission of sins granted to the chapel called of the Blessed Mary, "De Scala Cœli," within the church or outside the church of the Cistercian Monastery of St. Anastatius beyond the walls of Rome. We pray you to accede to her desire and holy project.

Greenwich, 21 July 1490.

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin,* 12 *lines, parchment.*]

July 21. **582.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Venetian Archives, Library.

Have often entreated his Holiness to promote to the dignity of the cardinalate the Lord John (Morton), Archbishop of Canterbury, Chancellor and primate of this kingdom. Do not suppose there is more need of further recommendation but as Sir David Williams

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and Sir John de Giglis, ambassadors to his Holiness, are about to set out for Rome, are unwilling they should depart hence without carrying letters concerning that affair, and therefore pray his Holiness no longer to delay this much desired and much deserved and well nigh indispensable promotion.

Greenwich, 21st day of July 1490.

P.S., *in the King's own hand.*—Such is our wish, Holy Father, and this we desire with the inmost longing of our heart. (Ita cupimus Pater Sancte, atque ex intimo cordis affectu desideramus.)

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin,* 12 *lines, parchment.*]

July 21. **583.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Venetian Archives, Library.

As Sir Oliver King, our chief secretary, is always in attendance on our person, so that he cannot in person visit certain parish churches situated in his archdeaconry of Taunton, in the diocese of Wells and Bath, we pray you graciously to grant him a dispensation, and decree him letters with the clauses customary, that he may, by his proxy or proxies, visit several parish churches in his said archdeaconry.

Moreover, be you pleased to concede him a dispensation for holding, *in commendam,* both the parish church of Broughton, in the diocese of Winchester, of which he has already possession, as likewise the deanery of Stoke, otherwise called Stoke Clare, in the diocese of Norwich, of which he has the expectancy, the annual value of the two benefices together not exceeding three hundred and twenty (Roman) treasury ducats, as you will hear from our procurators and ambassadors, the Venerable Sir David Williams and Sir John de Giglis, to whom we have committed this business.

Greenwich, the 21st day of July 1490.

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin,* 11 *lines, parchment.*]

July 21. **584.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Archives, Venice Library.

William Parker, a faithful subject of ours, has petitioned us to recommend John Parker, his son, now in his 14th year, for a dispensation to receive and hold some benefice, with cure [of souls], to enable him to support himself in the acquirement of learning, as he will when of lawful age, proceed to priest's orders. We beseech you to grant him such dispensation.

Greenwich, 21st day of July 1490.

[*Original. Latin,* 8 *lines, parchment.*]

July 23. **585.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Lib. Cl. x. clxxvi. 51.

The ambassadors of Britanny left without any settlement, The Prince of Orange is expected. The greatest military movements are taking place. The ambassadors of Maximilian and the Emperor are here, labouring for peace; nevertheless nothing seems concluded. The Maréchal de Gie is sent to Angers to order and regulate the King's camp.

Tours, 23 July 1490.

[*Holograph. Latin,* 1⅔ *page.*]

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July 28. **586.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.*

St. Mark's Lib. Cl. x. clxxvi. 49. Before this King had sent his ambassadors to Spain, a Franciscan friar, "Jo. de Moulion," a Navarrese, wished to become the mediator of this peace, asserting that he was neutral. He therefore spoke with Madame (de Beaujeu, Anne de Bourbon,) nearly a year ago, when we were at Amboise. Though he said he had no commission from the King and Queen of Spain, yet at last he delivered some letters credential from the Queen of Castile to Madame de Bourbon, stating that he had interfered for the peace, and the Queen had heard him willingly. He had also spoken with the King of France, in the presence of Mme. de Bourbon. All told him they wished for good friendship with Spain; and letters were given him on behalf of Mme. de Bourbon for the Queen of Castile. When he was going back to Spain he told the Bishop of Concordia and me he believed it would be certainly settled that these two Kings should have an interview, and that he was labouring for that object. This friar then went to Spain. The King and Queen accepted the proposal for an interview, and sent the friar and a knight to the French King. In March they were at this court, but did not appear in public. In April they were expedited hence; and the friar told me, in the greatest secresy, that he had arranged an interview between both sovereigns at Fontarabia and Bayonne, at which the Queen of Spain and Mme. de Bourbon were to be present, and that a compromise was there to be formed, the Queen and Madame acting as arbitrators of differences about the country of Roussillon and other things. The interview was appointed to take place on the 8th September next. In case the two ladies cannot agree, they may each choose a certain number of the councillors of the two Kings. He also said the King and Queen wished me and my colleague to be present, for I, as a Spaniard, can assist the Queen, while the Bishop of Concordia can assist Madame. Finally, he asked me not to reveal these matters even to the Bishop of Concordia. When at supper with the Lord Chancellor, I said I had heard from a friend at Rome, kinsman to a certain friar "Jo. de Maulion," of a proposed interview on the 8th Sept., and that I and Concordia could procure briefs from you. He replied, that day had been fixed upon because the King of Spain had not proceeded to the city of Granada with the army; but in consequence [of that movement] it was [now] impossible that the two sovereigns could meet on that day. He approved of the briefs. I told him I remembered his asking us to write to you to send a nuncio or else some briefs to the King of Spain. He, moreover, informed me he had charged Signor Marchino Gaetani (Cathaneum), your esquire, to speak with you on this matter. Your Holiness must write differently in this business from the mode you use in the other pacification between the Kings of France and England, and between the former and the King of the Romans, for in those cases there was and still is open war between the parties;

* To understand the ultimate connection of this despatch with English politics, it is necessary to bear in mind that at this very time there were Spanish troops in Britanny, cooperating with the British forces against the French aggression on that duchy, and that the object of the negotiations here detailed was to detach Spain from the English alliance.

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but it is not so in this case :* for when this King gave public reply to the ambassadors of Britanny, he complained of their bringing the English and other nations into Britanny, expressly avoiding mention of the Spaniards ; and on another occasion, when the King spoke against M. d'Albret, he said that he had had recourse to other sovereigns. You should therefore exhort them to renew the friendship and treaties of peace which existed between their forefathers, and accredit us to this King. [*At the end are two lines in cipher, appearing to allude to impediments in the way of his career.*]

Tours, 28 July 1490.

[*Holograph. Latin,* 4¾ *pages.*]

July 28. **587.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library. Cl. x. clxxvi. 48.

A few days ago dined with the Emperor's Chancellor and the Prothonotary of Xaintes (Raymond Peraud), the former having been appointed the Archdeacon's colleague by the Emperor. They asked me to do what I could towards this peace of Britanny in the absence of the Prothonotary, for whose return the Emperor had written. I said I could not interfere without being asked to do so. Subsequently the Prothonotary and the ambassadors of the King of the Romans, with the Chancellor, resolved to go into Britanny to induce the Duchess to expel the English. The King asked the Cardinal of Lyons to go with them, but he excused himself. The Archdeacon has procured letters from the King and M. and Mme. de Bourbon, requesting you not to deprive him of the function of Legate in Germany. He is sending a courier to the Emperor with letters from the French King excusing his return, as the King is sending him to Britanny, whither he went with the said ambassadors, telling me he should not be absent more than 20 days; in the meantime there is a suspension of arms. He desires to return to you, and bring money he has in Germany belonging to you.

The Duke of Lorraine sends the French King 3,000 infantry for the Breton war ; but the war is delayed too long, for the suspension of arms lasts 15 or 20 days. Perhaps a truce will be negotiated for this winter, until the interview between the King of France and the King of the Romans can take place in the city of Tournay or Douai (Dioc').

Tours, 28 July 1490.

[*Holograph. Latin,* 4⅙ *pages.*]

Aug. 3. **588.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. xiii. p. 19.

Permitting Marco and Paolo Tiepolo and Piero and Jacopo Contarini to receive certain wools and cloths, shipped for their account in England on board Biscayan barks before the Act of the 24th May was passed, prohibiting the conveyance to Venice of similar merchandise on board any but Venetian vessels.

[*Italian,* 28 *lines.*]

* See Bergenroth's Calendar, and also Prescott, for the fact that after the defeat of the Bretons and their English and *Spanish* auxiliaries at S. Aubin in 1488, the Spanish sovereigns again, in the spring of 1489, sent 2,000 men into Britanny to aid the Duchess ; and a much larger English force went thither under Lord Broke, Sir John Cheney, &c.

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Aug. 9. **589.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library. Cl. x. clxxvi. 48.

The Archdeacon of Xaintes and the other ambassadors of the King of the Romans are not yet returned from Britanny. Concordia is still at Boulogne-sur-Mer at the congress. The King sets out on the road to Angers on account of Britanny. Continual preparations for war, but nothing can be done this year. It is hoped the Prince of Orange is coming here from Britanny; unless he bring peace all consider it out of the question.

Tours, 9 August 1490.

[*Holograph. Latin, ½ page.*]

Aug. 12. **590.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library, Cl. x. clxxvi. 59.

The ambassadors have not returned from Britanny. They and the Prince of Orange are expected in a day or two. I fear the negotiations will not end in peace with the King of England, because he will not desert Britanny. You will learn the truth from the Bishop of Concordia, who will, I hope, lay the foundation of some kind of truce. In letters of the 1st instant, he says he is going to Calais to ask the English to wait a little while for the answers of this King to the suggestions drawn up, touching which the King of England had to answer, but had not done so; and I know that an answer has been sent hence rejecting these suggestions as they stand. We shall therefore, through all this month, have to look for the result of this congress. I have just heard that a number of English have invaded Picardy. Another rumour, incompatible with this, has arisen, that, at the instance of Maximilian's ambassadors in Britanny, the Duchess accepted the article of the peace made at Ulm with the ambassadors of the French King, according to which she is to expel the English from Britanny before the King gives up some castles there, which were to have been delivered up according to the treaty of peace made at Frankfort; and within a year, a decision is to be arrived at in Tournay, by impartial persons, respecting the right of the duchy; for whatever the King of England, does, he says is for the sake of the Duchess, and he will not make peace or truce with France unless the Duchess be included. How the Duchess can be content now to expel the English I do not see; for even if she wish she cannot do so. I and many others think that there is some secret understanding between the King of the Romans and the King of England, especially since it is asserted that numbers of men from Flanders have effected a junction with the English, and these men are said to be sent by Duke Philip, the son of Maximilian.

Tours, 12 August 1490.

[*Holograph. Latin, 3 pages folio.*]

Aug. 25. **591.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library. Cl. x. clxxvi. 58.

Though the Archdeacon of Xaintes has asserted that the peace of Britanny had been effected by his instrumentality, it will vanish in smoke, unless it be concluded by the Prince of Orange now with the King. Two things were said to have been concluded with the Duchess by Maximilian and the Emperor's ambassadors:—(1.) That before the King deliver up the castles he has in Britanny, the Duchess would dismiss the English; (2.) That an investigation of

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the right of the duchy as between the King and the Duchess should take place within a year at Tournay. The arrangement did not satisfy the King, as he requires the English shall be expelled from Britanny within a given time. With respect to the investigation of his right, he says it can be examined in a single day, and he has no intention that this matter should be so protracted. Afterwards, the Prince of Orange arrived as ambassador of the Duchess, with power to agree with the French King respecting the term within which the English should evacuate Britanny. The King insisted on its being four months; the Duchess wishes it ten. The King also demanded securities or hostages that the English should return to England in the time agreed upon. The King has gone hence to Chinon, which is a sign of war with Britanny. Nevertheless, the said ambassadors, the Archdeacon, and the Prince of Orange have followed the King. All is uncertain. Greatest preparations for war. Gives an account of his ecclesiastical negotiations. The first President of Paris and the Bishop of Concordia are still at the congress at Calais, and will probably be absent ten or twelve days longer.

Tours, 25 August 1490.

[*Original, in a secretary's hand. Latin,* 3⅔ *pages folio.*]

Aug. 25. St. Mark's Library. Cl. x. clxxvi. 57.

**592.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

The Maréchal de Rieux (de Rios) has arrived at the court at Chinon as second ambassador from the Duchess of Britanny. He would not have dared to come if the Maréchal de Cordes,* who is at Nantes, had not remained a hostage for him, together with M. de la Tremouille. If De Rieux and the Prince of Orange do not arrange peace, the matter is incapable of arrangement. The King's inclination to invade Britanny increases, since he perceives that the King of the Romans is a long way off, and attending to the affairs of Hungary, and that the King of Castile is intent upon the Moorish territory (Mauritania); and with the King of England the business is proceeding by negotiation and mediation, which Flores grieves are so long protracted, because he wishes the Bishop of Concordia were back to cooperate with him in the convocation about the French ecclesiastical negotiations.

Tours, 25 August.

[*Holograph. Latin,* 1 *page.*]

Sept. 8. St. Mark's Library. Cl. x. clxxvi., 66.

**593.** FLORES to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

The Bishop of Concordia laboured greatly for peace with the English, but achieved nothing. The only arrangement is that the negotiations are put off to another congress, which is to be held at the same places on the feast of St. Michael this month; but the Chancellor of France told Flores that no one would appear there for the French King. The King has assembled a great army, but between petty delays and the intervention of winter, thinks war will be put off.

Angers, 8 Sept. 1490.

[*Holograph. Latin,* 2¼ *pages.*]

* Philippe de Crevecœur. He died in 1494.

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Sept. 9.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**594.** HENRY VII. to GIAN GALEAZZO SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Giuliano Bucino, ambassador to us from the King of Naples, delivered letters of credence to us from you, and visited us on your behalf. Saw and heard this individual willingly; are of opinion he will make you a true report.

Palace of Oking, 9th day of September 1490.

*Signed:* "Henricus."

[*Original. Latin, 20 lines.*]

Sept. 26.
St. Mark's Library.

**595.** JAMES IV., KING of SCOTLAND, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

There was one whom our father held dear, a Parisian professor of divinity, a certain Johannes de Irlandia, his ambassador to kingsand princes abroad, and his counsellor at home,—most admirable as his confessor. We ourselves bear this individual sincere affection, and need his services in the same functions.

This man, by reason of the grievous vexations which the Archbishop of St. Andrew's brought undeservedly upon him, was for just cause, together with his church, exempted at our father's suit, from the Archbishop's jurisdiction, and placed under the protection of the Apostolic see. This exemption we appreciate highly, for we deemed it just that those whose assistance is needed by their governments should be free and subject to none other but your Holiness. We, our Council, and the peers (magnates) of our realm marvel that this man of virtue and learning, who has spent so much profitable labour in this Archbishop's diocese, should never have been able to win the favour of this prelate, who, after harassing him in his own country, now that the man is of mature age, has summoned him to your court for a fictitious cause, in order to invalidate his exemption. Verily, we cannot dispense with the services of such a man, whose mere absence, not to say his overthrow, would be very deplorable for us and our realm.

We therefore pray you to make provision touching these enormities, and not to suffer our ambassador to be in any way molested by this powerful Archbishop; and although from time to time our petitions in favour of certain prelates reach you, yet we love this man more than any other, and treat him with the greatest favour; wherefore we beseech you to cancel the citation against him, and that in this and other matters, you will give true credence to our procurator, Andrew Forman.

From the palace of Linlithgow, the 26th of September 1490.

*Signed:* "Your Holiness's devoted son, Rex Scotorum Jacobus."

[*Original. Latin, 16 lines, paper.*]

Dec. 1.
St. Mark's Library.

**596.** JAMES IV., KING of SCOTLAND, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

From the report of my procurator, Master Andrew Forman, I have understood the affection of your Holiness, and how in the dispute between him and the ambassador of the King of Naples, you maintained him in that place which, beyond the memory of man, has been due to my realm. I thank you, and request that, though my kingdom be far away from Rome, you do not suffer my ambassador to be provoked by any one.

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Have written many letters to you and to the sacred College of Cardinals for the raising of the famous church of Glasgow—which surpasses the other cathedral churches of my realm by its structures, its learned men, its foundation, its ornaments, and other very noble prerogatives—to metropolitan, primatial and born legatine rank, like the church of York in England.

To my amazement you have not hearkened to so obedient a son, wherefore again I beseech your Holiness to expedite the said creation. If anything should reach you from the Archbishop of St. Andrews, or through any other channel, contrary to my letters, and this creation, I supplicate you to give no credence thereto, nor to the adverse reports of any one, especially as the creation was decreed in my Parliament by the three estates of the kingdom after mature deliberation, to which effect my Chancellor addressed letters to you in the name of the estates.

From my burgh of Aberdeen under my privy seal, the first of December, in the year ninety.

*Signed as the preceding.*

[*Original. Latin, 17 lines, paper.*]

Dec. 5. St. Mark's Library.

**597.** ADRIAN CASTELLESI, of Corneto, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Mentions orders given him by the Pope, in accordance with which he writes frequent news to the Secretary. The King had lately held a meeting of Parliament concerning Britanny, on which province the French continued their attack. At the close of the session, had visited the Chancellor, Thomas Morton, Archbishop of Canterbury, who desired him to write to the Pope that parliament had determined that the King was to go in person into France next summer, providing him with the necessary supplies, appointing his followers, and making excellent arrangements for the prevention of injury to England or Britanny in the meanwhile. As stated and written by him heretofore, Morton is always zealous for the honour and dignity of the Pope and of the holy see: nor had he neglected doing his utmost to persuade the King to accept some of the many offers of peace and agreement proposed by France; but he complained that the Bishop of Concordia (Leonello Chieregato), late papal nuncio in England, and who out of regard for the Pope was received with all honour, had wasted many months in words and proposals, and concluded none of the terms stipulated with him from deference for the Apostolic see, the articles being violated through the treachery of the French, or by some fault of his own, which fault many would have attributed to the Pope, and considered him more partial to France, had not the Archbishop, of his observance and goodness, stifled many similar reports and opinions.

These assurances were subsequently verified by Adrian, whom Morton told to request the Pope to quench the flames of threatening war, before the King proceeded farther. Adrian will continue to do his best to the like effect, and is writing farther on the subject to the Pope's Secretary of State.

London, 5 December 1490.

[*Original. Latin, 29 lines, paper.*]

1490.

Dec. 21. **598.** HENRY VII. to GIAN GALEAZZO SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Sforza Archives, Milan. Learnt with deep regret the seizure of some of your merchants together with their merchandise, on the Rhine, by the Count Palatine and the Margrave of Baden, in virtue of some commission given by the Emperor (Frederick III.) to the Count and Margrave (by reason of certain reprisals granted by our progenitors to the heirs of Richard Heron our subject); for we have not forgotten that last year when your ambassador, Francesco Pagnano, was here, we, for legitimate reasons, interdicted and suspended these reprisals, and received all Milanese merchants under our safeconduct, so that they might safely and freely, like other foreign merchants, trade in this realm—go and return, stay and reside. Therefore are much surprised that the Emperor should enforce these reprisals, which never were conceded either by himself or his predecessors, but emanated from some of our own progenitors. Suppose his Majesty does not mean to claim jurisdiction in our own realm, or beyond that which we ourselves exercise! If any human being could assert any interest or claim with regard to these reprisals, we are that person, but not the heirs of Richard Heron, or any one else.

Having taken these merchants under our protection, and suspended the said reprisals, neither could the Emperor nor any other prince soever have the right or power in ordinary to make this sort of seizure either of the merchants or of their merchandise; nor moreover can such letters of reprisal be legally acknowledged by any prince or princes, unless they give us previous notice and obtain our consent. Therefore we wrote forthwith to his Imperial Majesty on this subject, and also to the King of the Romans, our brother, and to the Count Palatine and Margrave of Baden, for the release of the said merchants and merchandise, and are of opinion that there will be no need of further intercession; yet have we determined that copies of each of these letters should be sent to you, that you may know how we lament the mishap of your merchants, our affection for you, and how ready we are to comply with your wishes. Nor indeed, as we have been told lately, is it your merchants alone who are detained by the Count Palatine and Margrave, at the suit and request of the heirs of Richard Heron, but some of our own subjects, and even certain Florentines on their way to this our realm, together with all their merchandise, have been captured, so that we regret this proceeding very much indeed, but persuade ourselves that, immediately on the delivery of our letters, these merchants and their goods will be released.

Windsor, 21st day of December 1490.

*Signed:* "Henricus."

[*Original. Latin, 82 lines, paper.*]

Dec. 21. **599.** HENRY VII. to the EMPEROR FREDERICK.

Sforza Archives, Milan. Gian Galeazzo Maria Sforza, Duke of Milan, has informed us that some months ago certain merchants of his, proceeding with precious merchandise towards this our realm, were arrested on the Rhine, with their goods, by the Count Palatine and the Margrave of Baden, in virtue of some commission of your Majesty given

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to the said Count Palatine and Margrave, by reason, as it is asserted, of certain reprisals conceded by our progenitors to the heirs of one Richard Heron, our subject, deceased, against Milanese merchants. But since we last year took all Milanese merchants under our safeconduct, empowering them freely to go to our kingdom, to trade and reside there, and to return thence, notwithstanding these reprisals, which we annulled—we pray your Majesty to direct the Count and Margrave at once to release the said Milanese merchants, together with their goods, and moreover in no wise to aid the said heirs in the suit for reprisals, which we suspended more than a year ago; also, that they make full restitution, not only to the Milanese merchants, but to all other merchants soever, whether our subjects or Florentines, or any others of any description, there arrested at the suit of the heirs of Richard Heron in virtue of any reprisals granted by our progenitors: for it is not in accordance with law that these heirs of Richard Heron, our subject, should receive more favour or justice from you than from us ourselves; nor is it quite becoming that these ancient grants of our progenitors, which we have interdicted and suspended on suspicion of their not being quite legitimate, should be held confirmed by your Majesty. Indeed, if there be any one who can justly claim any right or title in these reprisals, it would be ourselves, and not the heirs of Heron; or if the heirs of Heron lay claim to any legitimate right, it is of our jurisdiction to hear and minister justice. Doubt not but you will at once order the Count and Margrave to release these Milanese merchants and others arrested, and restore their several goods in full.

Windsor, 21st day of December 1490.

[*Copy. Latin, 90 lines, paper.*]

Dec. 21. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**600.** HENRY VII. to the KING of the ROMANS.

Letter in conformity with the preceding.

[*Copy. Latin, 90 lines, paper.*]

Dec. 21. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**601.** HENRY VII. to the MARGRAVE of BADEN.

Letter in conformity with the two preceding.

[*Copy. Latin, 80 lines, paper.*]

Dec. 21. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**602.** HENRY VII. to the DUKE of MILAN.

Returns thanks for the honourable reception given to Sir David Williams, English ambassador to Rome, on his passage through Milan.

Windsor, 21 December 1490.

*Signed:* "Henricus. Manu propria."

[*Original. Latin.*]

Dec. 27. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**603.** BENEDETTO SPINOLA to GALEAZZO MARIA SFORZA VISCONTI, DUKE of MILAN.

On the 5th instant, the messenger Gian Christopher Cagnolla, the bearer of the present packet, arrived with the Duke's letters addressed to the King of England and to himself. Expresses gratitude for the Duke's recollection of him, and is delighted to hear of his well being.

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On the arrival of the messenger the King was in the country 50 miles off, so he rode towards him immediately together with the messenger. Both one and the other were well received by the King, who desired them to pass the day with him to rejoice about the letters and the statement made by Spinola in virtue of his credentials, declaring that the news of the Duke comforted him as much as those of any other prince. He returned thanks for the great honour done lately to his ambassadors, and declared that it was his wish constantly to strengthen the confederacy and friendship formed with the Duke, making him all possible loving offers. He expressed regret for the seizure of the Duke's subjects and their merchandise on the Rhine by the Count Palatine and the Margrave of Baden, in virtue of the frivolous reprisals conceded of yore to the late Richard Heron. He said it was not the business of any potentate to administer justice to his subjects, as by God's grace he himself sufficed for that purpose; that as the reprisals were conceded without right and cause, he had repealed and cancelled them, writing to the Emperor, the King of the Romans, and to the said Count Palatine and Margrave of Baden, as by the enclosed copies.

His Majesty said nothing more about the marriage, so they did not make further inquiry about it.

The Portuguese ambassadors are with the King, and according to report will conclude the marriage between the cousin of the King of Portugal and the eldest sister of the Queen of England. Will acquaint the Duke with the result.

Concerning the affair of the wools, it seems that "these English" have seen their mistake, and it is said that the King will therefore not proceed farther in the business.

Could not dispatch the present messenger sooner, although great haste was made: he behaved himself well and met with a very kind reception from the King, who being however at a distance from London, some little delay took place in obtaining the letters, which cost 28 ducats. Requests that repayment may be made to "Messer" Napoleone Spinola.

The English ambassadors have been long abroad on the frontiers of France, where they have held several conferences with the French ambassadors; though as yet they have been unable to devise any form of peace, and the expectation is rather of war.

Will give notice of what occurs.

London, 27 December 1490.

*Signed:* "Benedictus Spinola."

[*Italian, 150 lines, paper.*]

1491 ?
Jan. 30.
St. Mark's Library.

**604** JAMES IV., KING OF SCOTLAND, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Much surprised, having written several letters about raising the church of Glasgow to archiepiscopal, legatine, and primatial dignity, like the church of York in the kingdom of England, that you have not assented, especially as no small wrong and danger might arise to me and my successors from having only one spiritual primate throughout my whole kingdom. Honours ought to be distributed; and as the sovereign pontiffs have divided the power, jurisdiction,

1491 ?

and dignity ecclesiastical in the realm of England, to its advantage, it would have been to the honour and dignity of my realm had you, with the counsel of the sacred College, raised the church of Glasgow to enjoy all the privileges and dignities of that of York, the church of St. Andrew's being of similar creation to that of Canterbury. If you decline to grant wishes so honourable and well grounded, I shall consider myself despised and scorned: treatment which I trust you will be far from exercising towards princes who are devoted to you. I therefore implore you that Robert, the present prelate of said church, may be advanced.

This slowness in expediting so small a matter compels me to multiply my letters and missives. Should any letters of a contrary tenour reach you, I wish to know you do not credit them, and will not have the dispatch of this business delayed.

From our palace near Edinburgh, the penultimate day of January. *No date of year.*

*Signed:* "Scotorum Rex Jacobus."

[*Original. Latin, 14 lines, paper.*]

1491.
Feb. 16.

**605.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Venetian Archives, Library.

Supplicate you to grant to William Nevil, our kinsman, now in his 18th year, though only a youth in minor orders, a dispensation to hold for life two benefices, incompatible otherwise with cure of souls, together with one dignity, the next in grade to that of bishop, with a clause empowering him to exchange it for life, and all other favourable and opportune clauses; also to be promoted to all holy orders, even those of the priesthood, in the 21st year of his age.

Westminster, 16 February 1490[—91].

*Signed:* "Henricus Rex."

[*Original. Latin, 7 lines, parchment.*]

Feb. 22.

**606.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning a reply to letters received from Henry VII.

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. 34. p. 85.

Can no longer delay giving a reply to the two letters received from the King of England concerning the wines of Candia, the matter being of the greatest possible importance, as it is a question either of continuing the Flanders voyage or abandoning it.

As the King has been stimulated to this proceeding by the Florentines and others our rivals, be his Majesty answered by word of mouth.

The nobleman Giacomo Venier, our captain of the Flanders galleys, immediately on arriving in England, is to enter the presence of the King and state our views.

Ayes, 77, 85, 84. Noes, 30. Neutrals, 16, 36, 44.

[*Italian, 22 lines.*]

Feb. 28.

**607.** JAMES IV., KING of SCOTLAND, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library.

Have written many epistles for the raising of the church of Glasgow to be metropolitical, primatial, and born legatine, like the church of York in England; although you, to my very great sur-

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prise, have not assented, especially as in my last parliament this creation appeared to all the three estates of my realm particularly advantageous to the church and to this kingdom, and it was decreed to urge this matter with you.

Beseech you to grant this creation, knowing that should my prayers be contemned and despised by you like former ones I shall infer that the disobedience of others avails them more than my devotedness.

Jedworth, the last of February.

*Signed:* "Devotissimus filius Scotorum Rex Jacobus."

[*Original. Latin, 9 lines, paper.*]

March 11. Senato Mar. v. 13. p. 42.

**608.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Desiring all persons entitled to make motions concerning the Flanders voyage to do so on Tuesday next, under penalty of 1,500 ducats, as it is for the profit and honour of the city that the galleys be put upon the berth for that voyage without further delay.

Ayes, 167. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 1.

[*Latin, 8 lines.*]

April 12. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxiv. p. 89.

**609.** DOGE AGOSTINO BARBARIGO to "SER" GIACOMO VENIER, Captain of the Flanders Galleys.

On arriving in England, after the dispatch of business in Flanders, present yourself to the King. After consigning letter of credence, tell the King that we received his two letters, to which we did not reply by letter, having determined to give the answer through you, in order to do honour to his Majesty. By those letters he informed us that he objected to our having augmented the duty payable by Englishmen on exporting wines from Candia. You will answer him that the act was not decreed for the convenience of our citizens, but from urgent necessity.

The pirates were in the habit, under the pretext of trade, with false flags and papers, of going to Candia for wines. On their way back they captured and plundered our ships. Therefore the said act was passed, the provisions of which did not apply solely to English ships and English subjects, as but few of the latter come into these seas, and then are at liberty to load the wines of Candia on board our vessels, like our subjects, whose condition in this respect is the same as theirs; on foreign ships as on our own the pirates inflicted loss. We might have taken this step earlier for the advantage of our own ships of heavy tonnage, which have our orders not only to extirpate pirates but to defend the Christian religion. This consideration alone, however, would not have moved us had we not perceived that in the heart of our State plots were laid against us and our citizens on the account aforesaid, no less detestable than irremediable, as is well known, we are sure, to his Majesty.

Wherefore, we beseech him not to demand what we cannot allow, for if we were to repeal this act concerning the wines of Candia, or make a partial innovation for his subjects, we should be compelled to do the like by the subjects of other kings and potentates also. Add, that often both on account of pirates and for the benefit of his

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subjects, his Majesty has deservedly made similar and even greater provisions than ours. On hearing our reasons, you giving assurance that henceforth we shall supply England with a greater quantity of said wines than hitherto, we feel certain that his Highness will remain satisfied. Make diligent inquiry whether there be any one of our subjects so rash and inconsiderate as to oppose our decrees. Should you discover or hear of any one, give us especial notice of the fact, as we shall act by them in such wise as to afford a very notable example for all to abstain from similar presumption. Give notice of this order to the consul, and to all our merchants and citizens for their information.

The cost of going to the King, which can be but small, you will place to the account of the London factory; and from time to time, by letter, you will give us account of all that occurs.

[*Italian*, 73 *lines.*]

April 21.

**610.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Venetian Archives, Library.

Lately you granted the office of "collector" in England to Adrian de Castelli, your nuncio. Understand that it has been hitherto customary for similar "collectors" to have certain powers from the Apostolic see whereby to maintain and ingratiate themselves with the inhabitants of our kingdom, and that by your letters you have conceded to Adrian all the powers of his immediate predecessor *for him to exercise them at this present (quibus ille nunc uti poterat)*. This expression is ambiguous, and the collector is thereby disappointed of your concession and privilege, to his own disadvantage and the inconvenience of our subjects, who, for this sort of powers—ordinary, usual, and very circumscribed—were accustomed to apply to the collector for the time being. Lest, unable to obtain them from him, they, from poverty, and owing to perils and the length of journeys, dispense with them, and make provision otherwise, we pray you to command the omission from those letters of this ambiguity.

Greenwich, 21st day of April 1491.

*Signed:* "Your Holiness's most devoted son Henry."

[*Original. Latin*, 11 *lines, parchment.*]

April 30.

**611.** JAMES IV., KING OF SCOTLAND, to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

St. Mark's Library.

Dated Glasgow, 30th April; being the duplicate of a former letter dated Jedworth, the last day of February, concerning the church of Glasgow.

[*Original. Latin*, 8 *lines, paper.*]

July 7.

**612.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the Debts of the London Factory.

Senato Mar. v. xiii. p. 96.

Unless an opportune remedy be applied it will be impossible to send any more spices and other merchandise by the galleys for England, as the loan required amounts to 50, 60, and 70 per cent., and if not obtained, the voyage must be entirely abandoned, or an opportunity will be afforded for others to disturb it, which would not profit our Signory; and as it is fitting and fair, in so very important a

1491.

matter, not to fail taking such steps as are suited to the maintenance and continuance of the voyage,—for the burden of this loan alone upholds the charges which our galleys exact in the island of England, provision being absolutely requisite,—it will therefore be put to the ballot, that no goods brought from England on board the present galleys, commanded by Nicolo Contarini, be removed thence or from the Customhouse without a "permit," &c., &c.

Regulations in favour of contractors for the present loan, to be observed with regard to merchandise on board the galleys commanded by Jacomo Venier, and by Nicolo Balbi, captain for the Flanders voyage in 1491.

List of duties on English wools, fine cloths, bastard cloths, tin, kersies, coloured cloths, and all other English merchandise, &c. &c.

Letter written accordingly on the 19th September 1491 to the consul in London, desiring him, as there were four couriers over there at great cost to the Venetian merchants, to keep only two for the future, as of yore.

Ayes, 120. Noes, 4. Neutrals, 16.

[*Italian*, 98 *lines*.]

Dec. 8. **613.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

Venetian Archives, Library.

When of late years the French first attacked the duchy of Britanny, and by a grievous war and a strong hand were intent on subduing it, we, in virtue of the alliance and amity existing between ourselves and that duchy, sent our ambassadors to the French, declaring we were allied with the Duchess, and also with the Duke during his lifetime, and bound to defend them; and that no injury could be done that duchy that would not be common to ourselves. We therefore requested them to desist from the war, and to recall their force and military power; [and] if they laid claim to any right, or had any just cause to vindicate, that they should be pleased to treat their business not by force of arms, but by law and amicable adjustment. They answered our ambassadors that they were content all their claims against the Duchess and the duchy should be compromised and treated amicably, and that they would make peace both with her and with us. Shortly after this, these French sent their ambassadors to us to negotiate peace with us and with the duchy of Britanny likewise. After much discussion, we—being desirous of peace, and having even determined beforehand to waive on this occasion our recorded right, and put up with some disadvantage and detriment, rather than encourage enmity against them—at length came to an agreement with these French ambassadors about certain articles of a peace; but when we sent our own ambassadors to France, the confirmation of them, the French would ratify nothing that had been agreed with us; nay, when they themselves framed other articles of peace, and when our ambassadors were willing to accept them, they retracted all their offers, having bribed certain peers of Britanny, and being confident that everything would succeed according to their wishes; as your Legate, the Bishop of Concordia, should he report the truth, can plainly tell you.

To conclude, whilst we were anxious to make peace, they would

1491.

never grant any terms save such as were disgraceful to us; but while they held out hopes of peace, followed an opposite course, and by incessant, vigorous, and calamitous war, gradually usurped the whole duchy, and reduced it to their power. Nor, indeed, are they satisfied with this, but plot all the mischief they can against us and our neighbours and confederates, their threats increasing daily; and they are, by letters and envoys, instigating the Scots to make war upon us and invade our kingdom, for which purpose they have sent money, arms, and provisions.

They have also by many promises incited certain barons (domicellos) in Ireland and in our kingdom to rebel against us; and to this end they hostilely invaded our borders, committing acts of plunder and conflagration. How they acted in Flanders—by what artfulness they detached the city of Ghent from its obedience to our ally the King of the Romans, and occupied Sluys; how they are daily stimulating many other cities to renounce him and his son the Duke of Burgundy, his future heir, our confederates—is notorious to all men.

We subsequently tried all peaceful means, and could obtain nothing whatever that was just and fair, so nothing remains for us but to repel these manifold wrongs. We wage this war of necessity, having left nothing whatever untried for the maintenance of peace and friendship, and would rather cede something of our own than exchange peace for war, there being nothing more abhorrent to us than the slaughter of men and the shedding of Christian blood. Really such intense and insatiable coveting of the dominions of others cannot be borne. We thoroughly comprehend what ruin threatens all neighbouring nations and races if such violent thirst for annexation be not checked; for if similar insolent lawlessness were left unbridled, we know not whether it might not extend itself even to the detriment of certain Italian potentates, and likewise inflict some trouble and injury on your Holiness and the Apostolic see, through that Pragmatic Sanction, which we always condemned.

Moreover, your Collector in our realm has urged us on your behalf, in any treaty made by us with these French, to bear in mind the Pragmatic Sanction which they have introduced in violation of the liberty of the Romish Church, and so far as in our power to resist its progress in any way.

We know for certain that before Upper and Lower Burgundy and Picardy came into the hands of the French no pragmatic sanction soever prevailed in those provinces; whereas after their occupation of those territories they introduced it instantly: on which account, as they have lately conquered the whole of Britanny, it is more and more to be feared that they will introduce the Sanction into that duchy, as into whatever other countries they may subject to their sway. We promise your Holiness, that in like manner as we always have been hitherto so for the future will we prove ourselves no less thoroughly devoted to you and the Apostolic see, will provide to our utmost for the liberty of the Church, and will never stipulate any treaty with the French without having especial mention made of this detestable Sanction

1491. that it be abolished and abrogated; praying you on your part likewise firmly to support our rights and claims, and not to give ear to the fictitious complaints and accusations of our enemies.

Greenwich, 8th day of December 1491.

*Signed:* "Devotissimus atque obsequentissimus filius Dei Gra Rex Angliæ et Franciæ ac Dñs Hyberniæ Henricus."

[*Original. Latin, 22 lines, parchment.*]

Dec. 8. Venetian Archives, Library.

**614.** HENRY VII. to POPE INNOCENT VIII.

In the time of Urban VI. the cathedrals of the sees of Lichfield and Coventry, united canonically to one episcopal see, fell vacant. No valuation being found in the registers of the Apostolic treasury, Nicholas, Cardinal priest of St. Ciriaco, treasurer of the sacred College of Cardinals, and James, Archbishop of Genoa, were appointed commissaries by Urban VI. to ascertain the annual value of the aforesaid churches. They appointed the Bishop of London and the Collector Apostolic to make inquiry touching the fruits, rents, profits, rights, and hereditary revenues belonging to the aforesaid churches; and thereupon the said Bishop of London and Collector Apostolic, after examination upon oath, found the true annual value of the said churches to amount to 330*l.* 3*s.* 11¼*d.* sterling. This they reported to the commissaries of the Apostolic treasury.

In consequence, John Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield having paid 733 gold treasury-florins, 16 "soldi" and 8 deniers of Roman money for payment in full of his service in ordinary, by letters patent from the treasurers of the Apostolic treasury and of the sacred College was released and quitclaimed; and all his successors were declared entitled to be released and quitclaimed on payment of a like sum.

Urban VI. and Boniface IX. having died, Pope Martin being raised to the pontificate, as the said churches of Lichfield and Coventry were not found taxed in the registers of the Apostolic treasury, the treasurer of Pope Martin and the treasurer of the sacred College of Cardinals instructed the Bishop of Trieste and the Collector Apostolic, then in this realm, to transmit to the Roman court the true annual value of the fruits, profits, rights, and hereditary revenues of the aforesaid churches. These commissaries found the annual value of those churches to be the sum of 357*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* sterling.

After the promotion of one William, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, certain canons of our churches of London and St. Asaph's lent at interest to the Apostolic treasury a sum of 900 gold "treasury florins," and the treasury, wishing to liquidate the debt, rendered the aforesaid William responsible to the said canons for that sum. Said William, when he had paid 440 gold "treasury florins" in full payment of his bulls, was quitclaimed and released.

The aforesaid churches of Lichfield and Coventry having become vacant, we recommended Master William Smyth to you as bishop, and, contrary to our expectation, understand that his bulls have not yet been expedited, on account of a larger sum of money than

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usual which your treasury has demanded of him, such in short as was never paid by his predecessors the bishops of those churches.

Beg you not to suffer any new tax to be laid on those churches, and not to listen to the sinister reports of certain persons, and direct your treasury to forward the bulls at once, and to be satisfied with the usual fees; especially as these cathedral churches are much poorer than they used to be, and have so fallen to ruin that, as we are informed for certain, not even 10,000 ducats would suffice for their partial repair.

These bulls cannot be long delayed without the greatest inconvenience; nor can the said Master William make any addition to the ancient fees, as it is forbidden for any bishop promoted to any church to disburse more than the usual fees; and were he to do otherwise he would be suspended and deprived of the temporalities of the said church.

Greenwich, 8 December 1491.

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin, 22 lines, parchment.*]

1492.

Jan. 9. **615.** The CARDINAL ASCANIO SFORZA to the CARDINAL ———.

St. Mark's Library. Pope Innocent VIII. has separated the churches and dioceses of Glasgow, Dunkeld, Dumblane, Whithorn, and Lesmore from the province of St. Andrew's, and exempts and absolves the prelates of the churches thus dismembered, and the clergy and people of the dioceses thereof, from the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of St. Andrew's. Has erected the church of Glasgow metropolitan, with archiepiscopal dignity and jurisdiction, with carrying of the cross, and the other metropolitan insignia.

The churches and Bishops of Dunkeld, Dumblane, Whithorn, and Lesmore, and the chapters of those churches, and the clergy and people thereof, to be subject in metropolitan and archiepiscopal jurisdiction to Robert, late Bishop, now Archbishop of Glasgow.

Rome, the 9th day of January 1492.

*Signed:* "Ascanio Maria Cardinal Sforza Visconti."

[*Original. Latin, 54 lines, paper.*]

**616.** FIRE AT HAMPTON.

St. Mark's Library. At this time, by letters from England, it was heard that that King's arsenal at Hampton caught fire, which was quenched; and on that day "Ser" Filippo Morosini, who was there, went in to see the arsenal, so the English suspected him of having set it on fire, but ascertained subsequently that this was not true, and nothing ensued.

[*Sanuto's Autograph Lives of the Doges, vol. iii., p. 339.*]

Jan. 10. **617.** HENRY VII. to the LORD LUDOVIC.*

Sforza Archives, Milan. Were we not of opinion that the intense ambition of the French, and their lust for extending their sway and conquering the dominions of others, is manifest to you, we should endeavour to

* Ludovico Sforza (the Moor), who had usurped the sovereignty of Milan, where he ruled despotically as the regent of his nephew Gian Galeazzo.

1492.

demonstrate it at full length; but we consider the fact so evident that there is no need for farther statement: though, how much it is our interest and also of yours, and of the rest of the Christian sovereigns, especially those nearest at hand, to repress such great thirst and desire for domination, we leave to your judgment; for the French are so on the watch to increase their power by any villany, and more and more so from day to day, that they may annihilate all neighbouring sovereigns to their own advantage; and, unless this insatiable covetousness be combatted, it is vastly to be feared that much mischief will result to the whole Christian commonwealth. All know by what right they harassed the Duchess and the duchy of Britanny by protracted and grievous war, and have now, at length, reduced both one and the other to their power. The fraud and stratagems employed by them to effect the rebellion of Ghent and many other Flemish towns against the King of the Romans are matters of notoriety, nor is anybody unacquainted with the plots now in preparation by them for the subjection of the whole of Flanders. If we wished, however, to give you examples nearer hom, or rather to recall [them] to your memory, [we might show] how perfidiously they circumvented and supplanted the princes of Savoy, [but] we think [that fact] can be no secret to any sovereign in Christendom—to such a degree does this insolent licentiousness spread itself and advance with impunity in every direction; and what mischief the French are machinating against us, or what snares they are laying, we pass over in silence, as not with words but by arms have we determined to avenge their injuries.

For the rest, as in this present year, we are about to undertake a war against these French, together with our confederates the King of the Romans and the King and Queen of Spain, and to carry our banners against them in person, we pray your Highness, by that consanguinity and friendship whereby we are linked to your illustrious Duke, to adhere to us in this just and necessary war, and to assist us to the utmost, it being your interest to prevent a neighbouring enemy, so covetous of empire that the whole world would not suffice him, from becoming too strong; one, in short, who threatens the duchy of Milan no less than the other principalities of Christendom, and lays claim to that identical duchy for the Duke of Orleans. We have made a full communication touching all that concerns our mutual advantage to the ducal commissary, Benedetto Spinola, citizen and merchant of Genoa, in whose good faith we place great reliance; and we have requested him to acquaint you by letter, on our behalf, with all that we imparted to him. Whereupon we pray you to give full credence to the aforesaid Benedetto in all such things as he shall state by letter to you in our name. Moreover, be pleased to report all these things to the Duke on our behalf.

From our palace of Shene, 10th day of January 1491[—2].

[*Copy. Latin, 90 lines, paper.*]

May 10. Senato Mar. v. xiii. p. 84.

**618.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Concerning the sources from which the "bounty" required for the Flanders galleys was to be derived, as the period for putting them "on the berth," was at hand.

[*Italian, 23 lines.*]

1492.
May 21.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**619.** The Secretary BARTOLOMEO CALCHO to LUDOVICO SFORZA, DUKE of BARI.

The host of "the Well," in this city, came to me today and informed me that yesterday there arrived there at his hostel an ambassador from the King of England on his way to Rome. He calls himself Bishop of Durham (John Sherwood), and has twenty-five horses with him. Did not think fit to pay him any farther visit, either in the name of the Duke or your lordship, not having heard that he had any commission to visit either one or the other of you; and especially to avoid giving any umbrage, as by this visit something might have arisen which might have offended the King of France; moreover, I had no commission from your lordship.

The ambassador departs tomorrow to proceed on his way.

Pavia, 21 May 1492; in haste (cito).

[*Letter. Italian, 20 lines, paper.*]

Sept. 6.
Venetian Archives, Library.

**620.** HENRY VII. to POPE ALEXANDER VI.

Congratulates him on his election. Has charged the Bishop of Durham and John de Giglis, his ambassadors at Rome, whom he reconfirms in their office, to yield canonical obedience to his Holiness.

Requests the Cardinal of Sienna may be received as his and his kingdom's Protector.

Greenwich, 6th day of September 1492.

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin, 16 lines, parchment.*]

Oct. 9.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta, v. xxxiv. p. 134.

**621.** DECREE of the SENATE as amended, concerning an embargo laid on the Flanders Galleys by Henry VII. for the conveyance of troops to Calais.

The detention of our Flanders galleys effected by the King of England is of great importance, both by reason of the detriment to our "masters" and merchants, as likewise on account of the King of France. The King of England to be requested to dismiss the said galleys, that according to custom they may pursue and complete their voyage at the due and preordained season.

Ayes, 53. Noes, 6. Neutrals, 6.

[*Latin, 14 lines.*]

Oct. 9.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta, v. xxxiv. p. 134.

**622.** The DOGE and SENATE to the CAPTAIN of the FLANDERS GALLEYS and to the CONSUL in LONDON.

Announce receipt of their letters concerning the detention of the Flanders galleys. Have therefore written to the King of England as by enclosed copy, desiring them to deliver or withhold the original, according to circumstances.

Should the galleys not be released, and the King take them to France, their stay in England to be prolonged for one month after their return to Hampton. If on the other hand they be not pressed into the King's service, they are then to remain at Hampton for one month after the arrival of the present courier.

Ayes, 84.

[*Italian, 41 lines.*]

1492.
Oct. 9.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta, v. xxxiv. p. 133.

**623.** The DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR at the Court of Rome.

Announce the receipt on that day of letters from the captain of the Flanders galleys, dated Hampton, 8th of September, to the effect that he had been charged by the King of England, on pain of capital punishment, to accommodate him with the Republic's galleys, which the King had determined to take with him to France; and that when the captain made a difficulty about obeying this order, his Majesty, by force of arms, had his troops put on board the galleys, compelling him absolutely to receive them, that they might be employed according to his intention. Although the State can with difficulty believe that the seizure has taken place, the Doge and Senate write to the ambassador, and command him to find a fitting opportunity for communicating it to the Pope. He is to do the like by the French ambassadors in Rome, with every assurance of respect towards their King, and of regret, annoyance, and injury caused to the State by this seizure of the galleys—to exculpate the Signory from any charges that might be brought against the State on this account, so that the King may entertain no suspicion of the Republic; and to those ambassadors alone, and to no others, he is to read the enclosed copy of a letter on this subject, written by the Doge and Senate to the King of England, demanding the release of the galleys.

A similar letter, with such alterations as necessary, was also written to the Venetian ambassador at Milan, with instructions, should there be any French envoy there, to communicate its contents to him in like manner.

Ayes, 142. Noes, 6. Neutrals, 1.

[*Latin*, 19 *lines*.]

Nov. 15.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta, v. xxxiv. p. 137.

**624.** MOTION made in the SENATE concerning the reply to Charles VIII., who had proposed a new alliance to the Republic, and touching the Signory's congratulations on the birth of his son; as likewise respecting the seizure by Henry VII. of the Flanders galleys for the expedition against France.

Letter from the Doge and Senate to Charles VIII.:—

Deem it their duty to inform him that the King of England had detained their Flanders galleys. This is most irksome to the State, both on account of the very great detriment incurred by their noblemen and the merchants, and from regard for his Most Christian Majesty, against whom the State would not wish to commit the slightest hostile act.

[*Latin*, 54 *lines*.]

Nov. 20.
Senato Mar. v. xiii. p. 102.

**625.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the seizure by Henry VII. of the Flanders Galleys.

Carried lately, that owing to the seizure of our Flanders galleys by the King of England, their stay should be delayed for one month after their return to Hampton free and released by his Majesty aforesaid. As it is understood that the galleys suffered great accidents and damage on entering Calais so as to need repairs,—Put to the ballot, that after being repaired and made seaworthy, the period of their stay be prolonged for 15 days; their captain being

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bound to speed their repairs and dispatch from Hampton to the utmost; and when repaired, and on the expiration of the above-written term, be he at liberty to depart and lay such fine as he shall choose on the masters. If they refuse to obey him, and in case of their being disobedient to his orders, be they subjected to the same penalties as if they had exceeded the period assigned for their stay.

Ayes, 146. Noes, 16. Neutrals, 2.

[*Italian, 14 lines.*]

Dec. 12. Venetian Archives, Library.

**626.** HENRY VII. to POPE ALEXANDER VI.

Having crossed over in person some two months ago with our army, and landed at our city of Calais, and having speedily occupied some of the nearest towns, when about to besiege Boulogne, a very strong place, contrary to all expectation, a peace was proposed to us by the French, with such conditions as to make it appear that no Christian and Catholic prince could be capable of refusing them. We therefore accepted this peace, both in order to attend to other matters and to avoid shedding Christian blood; as your Holiness will understand more fully from our ambassadors in Rome, to whom we wish you to give full credence in this matter.

From our city of Calais, 12 December 1492.

*Signed*: "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin, 9 lines, parchment.*]

Dec. 14. Senato Mar. v. xiii. p. 103.

**627.** DOGE AGOSTINO BARBARIGO and the SENATE to LORENZO PISANI, the Venetian Consul in London.

The Signory had understood from the merchants and owners of the two ships which loaded wines in Candia, that the King of England not only refused to take off the duty of 18*s.* per butt, but proclaimed it at all his ports, with this moreover in addition,—that those wines might not be sold for more than 24 crowns per butt. If this were enforced, it would be the ruin of the said merchants, at whose earnest petition the Doge and Senate command the consul, in case he should be unable to obtain the repeal of the duty from the King, to order the masters of those ships, on their arrival in England, to go with all the wines to Zealand, as the duty was unbearable. The consul, if unable to obtain the repeal within 20 days, was then to charge the masters of the two ships, under pain of the Signory's displeasure, and loss of their entire freight and of the "bounty" of two ducats per butt, to depart immediately without landing any portion of the wines, taking them to Zealand, and there disposing of them, as their freighters had originally meant them to do at Hampton. He was also to desire the masters of the vessels, under the penalty aforesaid, during the abovementioned period of 20 days neither to land themselves nor to send their boats on shore.

Should the Venetian merchants in England, during this interval, be able to arrange the matter by giving 40 or 50 butts of the wines at the utmost, or a sum of money not to exceed their value, so that they may be landed free of the aforesaid duty, and be sold as usual, the Doge and Senate authorize the compromise (provided the sum

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do not exceed the aforesaid amount), as it may prove less detrimental and inconvenient to the merchants in general and to the masters and partners in the ships; and as the majority of the owners of the said wines in Venice had agreed to pay the masters at the rate of a ducat per piece for freight to Zealand, the Doge and Senate choose that, as fair and fitting, the other merchants having wines on board do pay freight at the same rate. Finally, the Senate decrees that on the arrival of the two ships at Hampton they are to be considered entitled to the "bounty" of two ducats per butt.

Ayes, 98. Noes, 3. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian, 45 lines.*]

1493.

Jan. 24. St. Mark's Library.

**628.** JAMES IV., KING OF SCOTLAND, to POPE ALEXANDER VI. Congratulates the Pope on his elevation to the papacy. Has sent the Bishop of Aberdeen and other ambassadors to tender his obedience to the Apostolic see.

Edinburgh, 24 January, in the year of our Lord 1492 [–93].

*Signed:* "James."

[*Original. Latin, 10 lines, paper.*]

March 1. Venetian Archives, Library.

**629.** HENRY VII. to POPE ALEXANDER VI. Congratulates him on his elevation to the papacy.

Shene, 1st day of March 1492 [–93].

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin, 14 lines, parchment.*]

July 8. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxiv. p. 179.

**630.** ANNOUNCEMENT made to the SIGNORY by the French ambassador, Mons. de Peronne, of the peace concluded with the King of England, King Maximilian, and with the Archduke Philip, to whom Charles VIII. had restored his sister, the Archduchess Margaret.

[*Latin, 30 lines.*]

July 12. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxiv. p. 179.

**631.** CONGRATULATIONS offered by the SIGNORY to the French ambassador, Mons. de Peronne, on the peace made by his King with the Kings of England, Spain, and of the Romans, and with the Archduke Philip.

[*Latin, 68 lines.*]

Oct. 4. Venetian Archives, Library.

**632.** HENRY VII. to POPE ALEXANDER VI. As the Bishop of Worcester is about to visit the Apostolic threshold, we, from the sincere love we bear him, especially recommend him to you.

Northampton, 4th day of October 1493.

*Signed:* "Henricus."

[*Original. Latin, 6 lines, parchment.*]

Nov. 4. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxiv. p. 197.

**633.** The DOGE and SENATE to the KING of FRANCE. Thanking him for having included the Republic in the peace lately made by him with the King of the Romans, with Spain, and with England.

[*Latin, 27 lines.*]

1494.
Jan. 12.
St. Mark's Library.

**634.** FRANCESCO TODESCHINI PICCOLOMINI,* CARDINAL of SIENNA, to POPE ALEXANDER VI.

Informs him that the Bishop of Durhan (John Sherwood) had died at about 5 p.m. on the preceding evening. Writes that his extreme grief for the death of his own brother the Duke of Amalfi, who in like manner died yesterday, had prevented him from announcing the Bishop's demise to the Pope sooner.

Beseeches the Pope not to settle or decide about the see of Durham until acquainted with the wish of the King of England, for that bishopric is of the greatest importance to his Majesty's state.

[*Original, undated. Latin,* 11 *lines, paper.*]

Jan. 12.
Venetian Archives, Library.

**635.** HENRY VII. to POPE ALEXANDER VI.

A few days ago received letters from you, whereby we learnt the immense slaughter inflicted in Dalmatia and Croatia by the Turks, and the great danger in which that country and every neighbouring province, especially Italy, is placed. This intelligence was very distressing.

We indeed hope that under your auspices mature deliberation will be had for the harassed Church and the whole Christian commonwealth; to which effect, although at a great distance and embarrassed by a variety of cares, you will always find us most ready according to our power, on account of our devotion to you.

From our palace of Windsor, 12th day of January 1493 [-4].

*Signed:* "Henricus R."

[*Original. Latin,* 13 *lines, parchment.*]

Jan. 28.
Senato Mar. v. xiv. p. 26.

**636.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the stay of the Flanders galleys in England.

As our Flanders galleys now in England are at liberty, according to their auction contract, either to go to Flanders or to remain in England, and as it is not specified in their contract when the day of their stay is to commence, and it being fitting, as they can neither decide, nor go to Flanders, until after landing the goods destined for England, that, should they determine on remaining in England, their period of demurrage do commence after they shall have unloaded,—Put to the ballot, that by authority of this Council, our captain of the galleys be written to, that the demurrage aforesaid be proclaimed in the above written form, namely, after the unloading of the galleys, should their masters have determined to remain in England; though the aforesaid demurrage must not commence more than 15 days after their arrival at Hampton.

Ayes, 119. Noes, 26. Neutrals, 8.

[*Italian,* 13 *lines.*]

Oct. 3.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. v. xxxv. p. 31.

**637.** STATEMENT made to the SIGNORY by the French ambassador, Philip de Comines, Seigneur d'Argenton. He said that Charles VIII., on obtaining the kingdom of Naples, would have greater need of the Venetians than the Venetians of France; that

* Afterwards Pope Pius III.

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his Majesty was constantly obliged to defend his own kingdom from England and from Burgundy, and towards Perpignan, and from King Maximilian; and that Charles VIII. had need of the Signory.

[*Italian*, 82 *lines.*]

Dec. 10. St. Mark's Library.

**638.** CARLO BARBAVARA, a Milanese, to BERNARDINO FIGINO, L.L.D.

You write that not a few Venetian patricians inquire why our new Prince Ludovic, suppressing the family name of Visconti, calls himself "Englishman" (*Anglum se appellet*), and ask the derivation of that title. Will mention what had been heard by him in general conversation.

The common opinion is, that the new Duke has suppressed the name of the Visconti family and styled himself "Englishman" (*Anglum*) in imitation of Duke Philip, who also determined to make no mention of the Visconti family, and called himself "Englishman."

Some say that in England a city called "Anglum" was of yore held by certain counts, who, being unable to govern it themselves, appointed others as their vicegerents in that government, who were therefore called not only Englishmen (*Anglos*), but also Viscounts—vicars, as it were, of the counts; from which viscounts the ancestors of Duke Philip subsequently descended.

Others are of opinion that Duke Philip was styled an Englishman either because he himself or his predecessors contracted relationship with the reigning King of England, and that therefore, as a memorial of that event, they thought fit to retain the surname of "Englishman."

Others again say that when Antenor (who after the destruction of Troy) built Padua, there also came into Italy a certain man, Anglus by name, a very illustrious individual, who in like manner built Angleria, a place from which Duke Philip called himself Anglus.

The populace, accustomed to say anything malignant from mental excitement, and without reason, assert that Duke Ludovic chooses to style himself an Englishman, and to suppress the Visconti family, which, for the future, will be less exalted by him than it has been hitherto; though this is uttered in folly and ignorance, as since his accession he has raised several Viscontis both to the grade of senators and to other offices, so that he will not hold them in less account than they enjoyed of yore.

Milan, 10 Dec. 1494.

*Signed*: "Carolus Barbavara."

[*Sanuto. Autograph, Latin*, 70 *lines.*]

1495.

April 3. Senato Mar. v. xiv. p. 57.

**639.** The DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN CONSUL in London, Nicolo Justiniano.

Have heard from "Ser" Piero Bragadin, master of one of the Flanders galleys, by his letter of 31st January, the peril incurred by him with his galley in the bay of Biscay. Had in like manner heard that the flag galley and the Donada galley were missing, and feared they might have perished; and that he consequently

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demanded instructions. They desire the consul, should he have no news of the missing galleys, or at least of one of them, forthwith to have the Bragadina galley unloaded at Hampton; the master to receive his full freight, without any diminution, as if he had conveyed the goods to London, and all costs for the land carriage thither to be paid by the owners of said merchandise. Desire the consul, after the galley shall be unloaded, to do his utmost to obtain freight for it, and fix the period of its demurrage at two months from the day on which the consul shall receive the present letter. On the expiration of that term no goods to be shipped under penalty of 500 ducats, and loss of all the freight money, but the Council of Twelve are authorized to prolong the term, in case of necessity, for another fifteen days, and no more, under the penalties aforesaid.

After the Bragadina galley shall have been loaded the ship Malipiera, Toma Duodo master, to be at liberty to load. Should that vessel on the receipt of this letter not be in England the consul to send to Duodo by a special messenger, desiring him in the name of the Doge and Senate to proceed immediately with his ship to Hampton, and to load there, notwithstanding any decree to the contrary; to have fifteen days demurrage beyond the period assigned the Bragadina galley and no more, under the penalties to which the master of that vessel is liable, to receive two-thirds of the usual freight for all goods loaded by him, with this condition, that he be bound to have 100 men on board at the ship's expense. The merchants not to be subjected to any extra freight-charges; the master of the Bragadina galley not at any time to demand any indemnity from the Signory on this account; the owners moreover of said galley, having agreed to this in the presence of the Signory, desire him to charge Thoma Duodo, under penalty of 1,000 ducats, privation from all offices and benefices in Venice for ever, and ineligibility to the post of master of any Venetian ship, to come in company with the Bragadina galley, obeying the commands of the aforesaid "Ser" Piero Bragadin, its master, whom the Doge and Senate appoint captain, being convinced that he will so comport himself as deservedly to obtain the state's praise and commendation.

The consul to order the two masters of said galley and ship not to touch any port on their homeward voyage to Venice save the two ports in Sicily as usual, nor to remain there beyond the number of days limited by the galleys' auction contract.

Empower the consul, should he think it requisite for the safety of the galley and ship, to take some other vessel to accompany them, or put more hands on board the ship, adding to the hundred already ordered; and give him liberty, together with the Council of Twelve, to send in company with them as far as Palermo any vessel they may think fit, or else to put on board the ship as many more men, in addition to the aforesaid hundred, as they shall deem expedient; all costs incurred thereby to be paid by an average on all goods loaded in said galley and ship, whether below deck or above, and on all freights both of the galley and ship, in accordance with all fairness and equity.

Ayes, 172. Noes, 5. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian, 64 lines.*]

1495.
April 18.
Senato Mar. v. xiv. p. 60.

**640.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Put to the ballot, that Thomas Oure be elected and confirmed Consul of our nation at Hampton, with all the usual forms and conditions.

Ayes, 102. Noes, 31. Neutrals, 3.

[*Italian*, 12 *lines*.]

May 5.
Original Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**641.** AMBASSADORS ZACHARIA CONTARINI and BENETTO TREVISANO.

On their way to Maximilian, King of the Romans, inform the State that on that day they had visited the Lord Philibert (Naturelli), a diplomatist in the service of the said King, who told them that the Duke of York, son of the late King Edward, had taken the field against the King of England under the favour of the Archduke, and that the King of the Romans was nowise concerned therein.

Padua, 5 May 1495.

[*Extract, Italian*.]

May 12–17.
Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**642.** SEBASTIAN BADOER, Venetian Ambassador, to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Information communicated to him by the Duke, that by a courier from the west, who departed thence on Easter Tuesday, it was heard that the son of the late King Edward had embarked on board some ships with 10,000 men, bound for the island of England.

Milan, 12 May 1495.

Moreover that the King of Scotland had sent a number of ships with many troops in favour of the son of the late King Edward, together with some other details which the ambassador does not repeat, as the whole would be communicated to the Signory by the Milanese ambassador, according to custom.

Milan, 17th May 1495.

[*Original, extract, Italian*.]

June 3.
Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**643.** AMBASSADORS CONTARINI and TREVISANO.

Announce the arrival there on that day of four ambassadors from Scotland. Their coming is assigned to various causes; will endeavour to ascertain their business, and communicate it to the State.

Worms, 3 June 1495.

[*Original, extract, Italian*.]

June 9.
Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**644.** AMBASSADORS CONTARINI and TREVISANO.

The King of the Romans tells them that he admits the very great expenditure incurred by the Signory, but considers that of the fleet less necessary than military preparatives; adding that he likewise is subjected to very heavy disbursements, owing to the movements both of the Duke of Guelders and of Robert de la Marck, about whom he hears this very day that they have burnt certain villages of his in the duchy of Luxemburg. He is also informed of the proceedings of the Duke of York, who laid claim to the crown of England, and is now attacking the island with 1,500 men, independently of mariners. His Majesty means to send him a reinforce-

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ment of 800 men; and the Scotch ambassadors at Worms tell him they hope for certain victory.

Worms, 9 June 1495.

[*Original, extract, Italian.*]

June 10. **645.** AMBASSADORS CONTARINI and TREVISANO.

Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

They write that the Scotch ambassadors have had a private audience of Maximilian, and according to report, they state that their King, not having hitherto busied himself with state affairs, but being now arrived at a becoming age, has thought fit to inform his Majesty that his mind and disposition towards him are excellent. In short, he appears to have requested the King of the Romans to form a treaty of friendship and alliance with him. They have not as yet received their reply, *nisi super generalibus.* Will endeavour to learn the truth of what may take place and announce it to the State.

Worms, 10 June 1495.

[*Original, extract, Italian.*]

June 11. **646.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar. v. xiv. p. 65.

Announcing the safe arrival in England of the ship belonging to the noblemen Hieronimo Zorzi and brothers, and desiring the consul in London and "Ser" Piero Bragadin to engage it as convoy for the Flanders galley, and the "ship" Malipiera as far as Ivica, the master Nicolo da Napoli placing himself under the command of Piero Bragadin. The ship Zorza to receive a gratuity of 1,200 ducats, to be levied by average on all merchandise loaded on board the Flanders galley and the ship Malipiera.

The consul in London to see that the galley and the ship Malipiera have the due amount of hands, and to supply deficiencies by raising such money as required, on account of the masters, whose freights to be held liable.

Ayes, 128. Noes, 14. Neutrals, 4.

[*Italian, 33 lines.*]

June 14. **647.** AMBASSADORS CONTARINI and TREVISANO.

Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

They have visited the ambassadors from Scotland, who appear men of prudence and experience. Said many things to the honour and glory of the State. As already mentioned, they seem to be requesting Maximilian to league with Scotland against England, promising to favour the Duke of York, hoping thus to recover Berwick and certain other places belonging to their King, which have been held by England for many years.

Hear also on good authority that they are treating a marriage between their King and Mademoiselle Margaret, his Cæsarean Majesty's daughter.

Worms, 14 June 1495.

[*Original, extract, Italian.*]

July 11. **648.** The BISHOP of BRIXEN, Ambassador from Maximilian King of the Romans.

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta, v. xxxv. p. 138.

Announces to the Signory that Maximilian had called a diet of the princes of the empire, but could not attend it so speedily as he

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wished, on account of other occupations in Guelders and the Low Countries, and because he was impeded by the burden of much expenditure, and by having to dispatch the Prince of York, the new King of England, for the defence of his right; and that he was already at sea on his way to his country. Hopes that should he establish his right to the kingdom of England, he will be one of the colleagues and confederates of the league with his Majesty.

[*Latin*, 66 *lines*.]

July 17. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**649.** AMBASSADORS CONTARINI and TREVISANO.

This very hour his Cæsarean Majesty has sent to tell them by his counsellor the Magnificoe Dom. Ludovico Bruno, that from his counsellors at Mechlin, the residence of his son the Archduke Philip, he has received intelligence that they are of opinion that the Duke of York, who some while ago went over to Ireland, has reached England, and been received by some of his adherents, whereat his Majesty rejoiced greatly, as he could dispose of this Duke of York *ad libitum suum*.

Worms, 17 July 1495.

[*Original, extract, Italian.*]

July 19. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**650.** AMBASSADORS CONTARINI and TREVISANO.

This morning had audience of his Cæsarean Majesty, who after asking them what news they had, said,—

"With regard to the Duke of York we entertain great hopes that after obtaining the kingdom of England he will soon attack the King of France; and to this effect have we received every promise and certainty from the Duke aforesaid."

Worms, 19 July 1495.

[*Original, extract, Italian.*]

July 25. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**651.** AMBASSADORS CONTARINI and TREVISANO.

By his Cæsarean Majesty's order, Dom. Ludovico Bruno had been to them with the draft of letters he is writing to the Duke of Milan saying he should likewise write in conformity to the State, to the effect that the Duke of York, the kinsman of his Highness, had arrived with his fleet in the neighbourhood of London, and that, not having found the population well disposed towards him at the spot where he was most anxious to land and attack the hostile army, he had removed to another part of the island; though he nevertheless gave hopes that his affairs would prosper.

Worms, 25 July 1495.

[*Original, extract, Italian.*]

Aug. 16. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**652.** AMBASSADORS CONTARINI and TREVISANO.

Dom. Angelo of Florence, ambassador from Ludovic Sforza Duke of Milan to his Cæsarean Majesty, had shown them a paragraph in letters from his Duke, to the effect that he had received a notification from his ambassadors in Spain, purporting that the King of England wishes to be included in the League. The Duke therefore desires Dom. Angelo, in unison with the Spanish ambassadors at Maximilian's court, and with Contarini and Trevisano, to

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urge his Cæsarean Majesty to consent to this, adding that, should his Majesty refuse on account of the Duke of York, be he told that the need of existing circumstances requires the admittance on behalf of his Majesty of the said King of England, and that the dispute between them be referred for arbitration to the sovereigns of Spain."

Having no orders from the Signory, (the Duke of Milan making the announcement in conformity with advices received from his envoys in Spain,) and supposing that the Doge and Senate are acquainted with the whole through the Venetian ambassadors at the court of Spain, they deem it more fitting to leave the performance of this office to their Milanese and Spanish colleagues at Worms, and await instructions from the Republic.

From the statement made by Dom. Angelo of Florence, understand that the King of the Romans gives him and the Spanish ambassadors fair words, Dom. Angelo being of opinion that he is awaiting the result of the Duke of York's expedition, which will be known in a few days; as, should he succeed in his attack on England, Maximilian would admit him as, they have already written; whilst on the other hand, should the Duke be worsted, the present King will be accepted in his stead.

Worms, 16 Aug. 1495.

[*Original, extract, Italian.*]

Aug. 22. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**653.** AMBASSADORS CONTARINI and TREVISANO.

Were sent for this morning by the King of the Romans, who, in the course of a long speech, said he considered it certain that he should induce the sovereigns of Spain and the Kings of England and Scotland to move against France; that the Duke of Lorraine was going into Provence to attack the King, and would easily obtain that province as it belonged to him *de jure;* and that he, Maximilian, would be there in person with the whole host, so that within a year he should find himself at the gates of Paris, and the King of France would have to give *carte blanche.*

He also informed them that he had concluded the marriage of his daughter, Mademoiselle Margaret, with the prince, the eldest son of the King of Spain; that he was moreover negotiating a matrimonial alliance between Duke Philip and the second daughter of the said sovereigns; and that he was treating to give a relation of his to the King of Scotland, without explaining to them whom she was.

Worms, 22 Aug. 1495.

[*Original, extract, Italian.*]

Sept. 2. Deliberazioni Senate Secreta. xxxv. p. 166.

**654.** The DOGE and SENATE to CONTARINI and TREVISANO, Ambassadors to the King of the Romans.

Enclose copy of a letter from the Venetian ambassadors in Spain. They will see what Ferdinand and Isabella write about the King of England, and as the matter concerns Maximilian, the Signory deems it fitting to communicate the matter to his Majesty through their medium, desiring them to give immediate notice of the reply.

[*Latin, 41 lines.*]

1495.
Sept. 5.
Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**655.** AMBASSADORS CONTARINI and TREVISANO.

Having audience of his Majesty the King of the Romans, the Neapolitan ambassador read to him in their presence an extract from letters written by a colleague of his, also a Neapolitan, and accredited to the King of England, whereby he informed him how the Duke of York was in Ireland with but a few troops, and that the King had made great preparations, meaning to send in pursuit of him, so that they hoped speedily to get possession of him. This Neapolitan added that several envoys had come to the King of England from the Duke of Bourbon and from Monsieur de Graville, the Admiral of France, to keep his Majesty on good terms with the French King, informing him of the rout the said King had lately received in Italy, and of his enmity towards Maximilian, as induced by his having sent to tell the Duchess of Savoy not to favour the interest of the French King, although she had done quite the reverse; adding that in England the King of the Romans was held in no account. His Majesty listened without making reply.

Worms, 5 Sept. 1495.

[*Original, extract, Italian.*]

Sept. 16.
Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**656.** AMBASSADORS CONTARINI and TREVISANO.

They have acquainted Maximilian with the announcement made to the Signory by the Venetian ambassadors in Spain concerning the King of England. Maximilian made answer that he has given instructions to Don Francesco de Ruys, the Spanish ambassador, who leaves tomorrow on his way to Mechlin, and will forward them to his sovereigns. He added that he would communicate these instructions to the ambassadors, who would thus perceive his intentions.

They will wait to learn his Majesty's intention about this affair of England, and will then communicate it to the State.

Worms, 16 Sept. 1495.

[*Original, extract, Italian.*]

Sept. 19.
Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**657.** AMBASSADORS CONTARINI and TREVISANO.

Were visited to day in his Majesty's name by Dom. Ludovico Bruno, who showed them a statement concerning England, of which they enclosed a copy. As it purported that his Majesty, at the request of the Pontiff, the Sovereigns of Spain and other confederates, had been induced to name the King of England and to include him in the league,—a statement which would make it appear that the Doge and Senate had likewise besought him to this effect,—the ambassadors, perceiving this to be beyond their instructions, deemed it advisable to represent as much to his Majesty. They went to him and reminded him that it would be on their consciences did they not declare to him that the State had laid no commands on them concerning this affair of England, save that they were to give notice to him of what had been written to the Doge and Senate on the subject by the Venetian ambassadors in Spain.

To this the King of the Romans made answer:—"You explained this fully to us the first time that we spoke to you on the subject

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and we perfectly understood your meaning. We assert to having been requested by the Pontiff, and the Sovereigns of Spain, and by the others of the League; and this say we, because before you read your letters to us, the Duke of Milan had urged us strongly to this effect in his own name and in that of the other confederates."

In fact, before they received the letters from the Signory the King of the Romans had already formed his resolve in this matter.

Worms, 19 Sept. 1495.

[*Original, extract, Italian.*]

Nov. 9. Senato Mar. v. xiv. p. 82.

**658.** Doge Agostino Barbarigo to Pietro Contarini, Consul in London.

By your letter of the 12th ultimo have heard, with great displeasure, of the seizure in Southampton harbour, by Frenchmen or Bretons, of the nobleman "Ser" Piero Bragadin, master of the Flanders galleys, of our consul, and of those other noblemen and lieges of ours.

In consequence, we have determined to write you these presents, that with "Ser" Luca Vallaresso, after arranging your own affairs, within a fortnight after the receipt of this missive, you do, by lot or agreement, go on board the said galley for its safety. You are, whether by lot or agreement, to be captain, receiving as your stipend, 300 ducats, to be paid by average in the same form as the provision for the ship "Zorza" is paid. And that you may navigate in safety in our name, charge the masters of the ships, under penalty of 500 ducats each (at the rate of 124 soldi per ducat), and privation of masterships in their own persons, to depart in company with you and under your command.

If, however, you or Vallaresso, after making every effort, cannot come away owing to your business, our intention is that the galley do return to Venice in the manner and under the command as settled, according to your letter, by the Council of Twelve.

We have written in suitable form about this matter to the King of England.

Ayes, 166. Noes, 4. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian, 26 lines.*]

Nov. 9. Senato Mar. v. xxxv. p. 83.

**659.** Doge Agostino Barbarigo to King Henry VII.

The infamous and detestable seizure, in your Majesty's port of Hampton, by certain French subjects of the captain of our galleys and of our consul holding office in London, together with two other noblemen of ours, and some of our sailors, as it caused us displeasure, so we doubt not but it was most irksome to your Majesty, whose honour is chiefly wounded by the violation of your harbour; and for the release and indemnity of our said captain, consul, noblemen, and sailors who went thither under the royal security and safe-conduct, we doubt not but that everything which can be desired has been done. Nevertheless, lest we should seem to fail in our duty, we have to address this missive to your Majesty, whom we request to consider the nature of the business, and the very infamous offence done to yourself, and also to us and our subjects, the great

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convenience and profit afforded by whose trade in your kingdom is perfectly known to you.

Be pleased to apply a remedy: the most opportune will be to seize the persons and effects of the subjects of the King of France for the release of our said subjects, for then you will provide both for the safety of the prisoners, and for your own honour, whilst our other merchants will have greater cause to traffic in your kingdom, perceiving you prone towards their indemnity and security.

Ayes, 170. Noes, 1. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin*, 28 *lines*.]

Dec. 10. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**660.** AMBASSADOR ZACHARIA CONTARINI.

The Spanish ambassadors at the court of the King of the Romans have received letters from their colleague, Don Francesco de Ruys, accredited to the Archduke Philip, dated Mechlin, informing them that the King of England has not accepted the offer to join the League with the reservation about the Duke of York, as notified to the State; and they urge Maximilian to permit him to join said League, according to its articles simply and without further reservation. To this Maximilian made answer that he consents, although he could expect neither benefit nor favour from the King of England.

The Neapolitan ambassador at Nordlingen had received letters from an envoy accredited by his King to England, informing him that King Henry was disquieted because at one and the same time negotiations were on foot to include him in a league against the King of France, and to conclude peace with that King; and the Admiral of France, Monseigneur de Graville, received full information from the Germans of all these negotiations.

Nordlingen, 10 Dec. 1495.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

Dec. 19. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**661.** AMBASSADOR ZACHARIA CONTARINI.

Understands that an ambassador from England is on his way to the King of the Romans.

Nordlingen, 19 Dec. 1495.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

Dec. 21. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**662.** DESPATCH from CONTARINI forwarded by same courier.

There was brought hither to day from Nuremburg, with a great retinue and escort, the treasure which the Emperor, this King's father, had secreted some twelve years before his death in a chapel in the castle of Nuremburg, and which was conveyed by 21 carts in 63 locked chests, and deposited in the Town Hall, around which guard is kept by the chief citizens of this place and by many of his Majesty's attendants. Is unable to vouch for the contents of the chests as his Majesty informs no one thereof; when he opens them he is only accompanied by one of his intimate and most familiar attendants, or at the most by two. Understands, nevertheless, through an authentic channel, there is first of all the treasure which

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Isabella after the death of her husband Duke Albert of Austria, King of Hungary and brother of the Emperor Frederick, collected throughout the kingdom and delivered to the Emperor aforesaid; which treasure subsequently to the death of King Ladislaus, the posthumous son of King Albert, reverted to his Majesty (King of the Romans), and consists principally of very rare relics, amongst which is the cloth whereon our Lord's last supper taken with the Apostles was served, and the chalice wherewith he gave communion to them. There are besides rosaries, crucifixes, tabernacles, and other ecclesiastical ornaments. There are many imperial and royal robes and insignia that belonged to the Emperor, and to his predecessors, and all his jewels, cups of gold and silver, and tapestries and valuable furniture. In many of the cases there are taxbooks, registers, and other writings belonging to the empire, and works on alchemy and magic, which the Emperor aforesaid collected from many places at very great expense. It is also reported that in two of the chests there is nothing but lumps of gold, deposited therein from time to time by the said Emperor; and some say that these lumps are the result of alchemy. Should he learn farther details, and with greater certainty, will notify them to his Excellency.

Nordlingen, 21 Dec. 1495.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

Dec. 31.

Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**663.** DESPATCH from the SAME, forwarded by same courier.

Having detained the accompanying letters, there arrived the ambassador of the King of England, by name my Lord of Agrimont, a man of not much repute, having come with [only] ten horses.

I shall visit him in your Serenity's name, and will endeavour to learn the cause of his coming, and give you notice thereof; though, from what I have been able to collect hitherto, it is chiefly to negotiate an understanding and confederation with this King.

Nordlingen, 31 Dec. 1495.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

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Jan. 4.

Zacharia Contarini's Original Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**664.** ZACHARIA CONTARINI to the DOGE and SENATE.

This morning Maximilian, King of the Romans, has given audience to the ambassador from the King of England, the cause of whose coming is as follows:—

King Maximilian's envoy, the bearer of the first instructions for including the King of England in the League, perceiving that the proviso relative to the Duke of York was not acceded to, urged the King of England to send Lord Egremont to conclude the matter. Lord Egremont has declared that the King of England is anxious to maintain good understanding, but being urged by the Sovereigns of Spain to join the League, desires to see the articles of the same, and to be informed whether in consequence of the peace lately made between France, Venice, and Milan,* the League was dissolved.

* The peace of Novara made by Ludovic Sforza in August 1495.

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King Maximilian informed Contarini that he would draw up a reply, and communicate it to him and to the other ambassadors, and after hearing the opinions of each of them would forward it to Mons. de Beveri, to the Sovereign* of Flanders, and to the bailiff of Lille, who were going on private business in his name and that of the Archduke Philip, as ambassadors to England; and that this same reply would also be given by him to Lord Egremont.

Contarini expressed his conviction that in the reply King Maximilian would inform Lord Egremont that Venice was no party to the peace made lately between France and Milan, but intended adhering to the "Holy League."

King Maximilian replied that he had already notified to Lord Egremont that Venice had made no peace with France, and informed him of the Duke of Milan's reasons for making this peace, which had been stipulated with reservation as to the articles of the League; also that the French, to benefit their interests, affirmed that peace had been concluded generally with all the confederates.

Contarini had a satisfactory interview with Lord Egremont.

Nordlingen, 4 Jan. 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

Jan. 6. **665.** The SAME to the SAME.

Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

This day the ambassadors of the Holy League accredited to the King of the Romans have been assembled by his order, and Dom. Ludovic Bruno caused to be read to them the reply to Lord Egremont. Besides what was contained in the copy transmitted by Contarini,† there was a justification, purporting that the King of the Romans having no league or relationship soever with the King of England, the Duke of York (Perkin Warbeck), whom he firmly believes to be the son of King Edward, came to him; and that he considered it his duty not to abandon the Duke, nor to fail affording him all just and fitting favour.

A second clause purported that, should the King of England approve, the King of the Romans offered to negotiate a 10 years' truce or peace between him and the said Duke of York; and thirdly, there was a paragraph to the effect that, should the King of England be admitted into the League, he was to be bound to attack the King of France next Easter, with a strong and powerful armada.

To this the Spanish ambassadors said that were the King of the Romans to dismiss Lord Egremont with such a reply, it would be tantamount to telling him that he did not choose to admit his King into the League; in the first place, because all the paragraphs alluding to the Duke of York would only irritate the King of England; and secondly, that as the King of the Romans wrote lately consenting to the King of England's joining the League

* In the original "Sovrano" (=supremus Flandriæ prætor). The name of the sovereign here referred to was Daniel de Praet, Lord of Merrede (Sanderus, Flandria Illustrata), who was appointed prætor 12 April 1485.

† The copy does not exist at the Archives, but may be read in Sanuto's Diaries, vol. i., p. 13.

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unconditionally, the King of England would not now assume the obligation of attacking.

The opinion of the Venetian ambassador being next asked, he replied that his Spanish colleagues having expressed themselves sufficiently, it merely remained for him to remind his Majesty (the King of the Romans) that during the past months the Sovereigns of Spain had given the Signory to understand that it would be very desirable the King of the Romans should drop the affairs of the Duke of York, as this was not the moment for disturbing the kingdom of England, the admission of whose King into the confederation would be advantageous; as he on one side, the King of the Romans on the other, and Spain in her own quarter might simultaneously invade France, to the advantage of the confederates.

The Neapolitan and Milanese ambassadors approved what had been said; whereupon Dom. Ludovic Bruno, having heard the various opinions, withdrew, and reported them to the King of the Romans. On his return he announced that the King of the Romans was content to cancel all the paragraphs relating to the Duke of York, but insisted that the obligation on the part of the King of England to attack France should stand; not so much from any hope of its being observed, but because, unless inserted, the King of England would have obtained a promise from the King of the Romans not to favour the Duke of York; the League nevertheless deriving no advantage thence.

The Spanish ambassadors rejoined that they clearly perceived that, could the King of England be included in the League with the obligation to attack, it would be more to the purpose; but, knowing him to be a most sage King and to be well advised, they were certain he would not join with heavier obligations than had been assumed by the other confederates: that, for the observance of similar obligations, King Ferdinand and his consort would pledge themselves on behalf of the King of England, whensoever the King of the Romans pleased; and that at any rate it should be taken into account that, even were the King of England not to attack, his not being the ally of the King of France would prove of great importance, as that King would thus be prevented from availing himself of English troops, and of many other favours derivable from the King of England. The ambassadors added that, should this negotiation not be concluded, England would unite with France, whose King, they understood, had already sent an ambassador to England.

The Spanish ambassadors having expressed themselves thus, his Majesty sent for Dom. Ludovic, and charged him to act according to their suggestion, the matter being one which their sovereigns had much at heart and held in great account. So the document was drawn up according to the copy transmitted to the Doge and Senate by Contarini, who, on the 7th of January, announced the departure of Lord Egremont, to whom the King of the Romans had given a gold cup and one hundred florins.

Nordlingen, 6 Jan., 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

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**666.** EMBASSY of LORD EGREMONT in GERMANY.

Sanuto MS. Diaries, v. i. p. 13. Copy in St. Mark's Library.

The King of the Romans dismissed the English ambassador on the 6th of January and gave him a gold cup and 100 florins, and on the same evening the King quitted Nördlingen for Augsburg.

Reply of the King of the Romans to Egremont (Agrimundo), equerry and envoy of Henry King of England, returning to his lord:—

He was much gratified by the salutations received from the King of England, and reciprocated them cordially.

Had of late years—considering the ancient and good friendship between the Kings of England and the Dukes of Burgundy, and the ancient and common hatred of those two houses against the Kings of France on account of injuries and offences received—desired alliance with King Henry, until King Henry negotiated peace with the King of France.

Lately, however, owing to the strong ties of confederation and relationship existing between him and the Sovereigns of Castile, and at the request of the Pope and other confederates, consented to receive the King of England into the League.

King Henry has answered that, not having yet seen the articles of the League, he could not determine to join it, and that, as peace had been made between the King of France and the Dukes of Venice and Milan, he considered the League broken and dissolved.

Rejoins that he would speedily send instructions relative to these matters to his own ambassadors and to those of his son, the Archduke Philip, who were in England, that the King might have sure information, and would also consign to Egremont a copy of the identical articles of the League concluded between the Pope, the King of the Romans, the Sovereigns of Spain, and the Dukes of Venice and Milan, so that the King of England might be enabled to decide; and if he please to enter the League, sealed letters shall be drawn up between him and the other confederates reciprocally, as done by the rest of the allies.

Touching the second doubt, asserts positively that the Venetian Signory had made no peace with the King of France, but, on the contrary, declared to abide firmly and immoveably by the League: that in the treaty of peace with the King of France, the Duke of Milan had an express clause, stating that he had at any rate remained and persevered in the League; and that this is the real truth, whatever may be said by others to the contrary.

Requests the King of England to let him know as soon as possible what he means to do in this matter, that he may be enabled to notify the result to the rest of the confederates through their ambassadors now at his court.

[*Transcript, in Latin. Under date of* 31 *January* 1496, *in the Diaries. No date to the letter, but by the letter book of Zacharia Contarini it appears that the letter was written at Nordlingen on the 6th January* 1496.]

Jan. 15.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**667.** The DOGE and SENATE to ZACHARIA CONTARINI, Ambassador to Maximilian, King of the Romans.

By the enclosed summaries* he will perceive how much Ferdi-

* The summaries have not been registered, nor do the Venetian despatches from Spain of this period exist.

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nand and Isabella of Spain wish the King of England to join the Holy League. This course the Signory decidedly advocates, considering both the power of the King of England and the opportunity he would have for invading France.

[*Latin*, 9 *lines*.]

Jan. 17. **668.** ZACHARIA CONTARINI to the DOGE and SENATE.

Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

On that day his Majesty, having to confer investiture of privileges on the burghers of Augsburg, invited all the ambassadors to accompany him. On assembling at the court they were shown into a room, where they found the King of the Romans alone with Dom. Ludovic Bruno: whereupon the Bishop of Concordia, the Apostolic Legate (Lionello Chieregato), read a brief dated the 3rd instant, charging him to urge the King of the Romans to proceed to the frontiers of France and Spain, in accordance with the opinions of the Signory and the Duke of Milan, and to send three or at least two thousand infantry to aid King Ferdinand (of Naples). The Bishop was also to urge the admission into the League of the King of England, with the obligation, if possible, to attack the King of France; and the inclusion of the King of Scotland, who, the Legate said, was not less Spanish than French.

After conferring with Dom. Ludovic, the King of the Romans caused the ambassadors to be told that it was his intention to aid King Ferdinand, and to send troops to succour him: that concerning the affair of the King of England, he had sent a note to his ambassadors in conformity with the reply given by him to Lord Egremont; and that he should wish all the potentates of the League to send representatives to England, or commissions and power to their agents on the spot.

Augsburg, 17 Jan. 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

Jan. 21. **669.** The SAME to the SAME.

Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

Communications made by the ambassadors from the powers forming the Holy League to the privy councillors of the King of the Romans, Dom. Georgio Elecher and Dom. Ludovic Bruno.

The Legate was charged to seek the admission of the King of England into the League and felt sure that anything he might do would be ratified by the Pope; he would therefore write to the Collector of England and give him his authority.

The Milanese ambassadors said that their Duke, being the feudatory, vassal, and subject of the King of the Romans, was with his servants bound to do whatsoever his Majesty should desire him at any time; and that they were always ready to consign the commission for the King of England, now in their hands, to a merchant, a Milanese gentleman now in Flanders, and make him go across with it, one of themselves going to the Diet of Frankfort.

Augsburg, 21 Jan. 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

Jan. 23. **670.** DOGE AGOSTINO BARBARIGO to the CONSUL in LONDON.

Senato Mar.

As the galley and our ship from Flanders have been detained many days at Hampton by reason of the capture by the French of "Ser"

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Piero Bragadin, master of the galley,—"Ser" Piero Contarini, now in England, is to go on board the said Bragadina galley and command both that and the ship.

Ayes, 185. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 2.

[*Italian*, 25 *lines.*]

Jan. 28. **671.** ZACHARIA CONTARINI to the DOGE and SENATE.

Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

Yesterday the King of the Romans having sent for all the ambassadors said, through the Bishop of Brixen, he had sent instructions of such a sort to his ambassadors in England, that he did not doubt they would obtain the effect desired by the Pope.

Augsburg, 28 Jan. 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

Jan. 29. **672.** The SAME to the SAME.

Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

Confirms his account of the dismissal of Lord Egremont, and of the instructions sent to the ambassadors in England; as also of the King of the Romans' proposal for the mission thither of envoys.

Augsburg, 29 Jan. 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*

Feb. 4. **673.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Mar.

"Ser" Almoro Gritti and "Ser" Piero Bragadin have been captured by a French bark and a French barge in the middle of the harbour of Hampton, and a ransom of 550 ducats placed on each of them, with other expenses amounting to ————————; and at the same time "Ser" Francesco Donado, one of the sons of the nobleman "Ser" Tomà Donado, was captured and wounded by a shot from a falconet, which passed through his thigh, and he has paid 150 ducats for his ransom,—as stated by letters read to the Council. Therefore our nobleman aforesaid, who, from no fault, but in execution of our Signory's orders, have suffered such loss, are to be indemnified with the moneys of our London factory, in two years, by rate, so far as they shall establish their respective payments.

In the same condition be there included the clerk, the galley oarsmen, and others who have been captured.

Ayes, 130. Noes, 8. Neutrals, 3.

[*Italian*, 25 *lines.*]

Feb. 5. **674.** The DOGE and SENATE to ZACHARIA CONTARINI.

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

Desire him to tell the King of the Romans that it will be very agreeable to Venice that the King of England join the Holy League; and that they have charged certain Venetian noblemen, resident in England, to negotiate, together with the commissioners of the other confederates of the State, the entry into the League of the King of England, with the obligation, if possible, to attack France, as the Pope has declared through his Legate in England.

Ayes, 107.

[*Latin*, 43 *lines.*]

1496. Feb. 10. Commemoriali, No. xviii. p. 53.

**675.** POWER given by DOGE AGOSTINO BARBARIGO, on behalf of the Republic of Venice, to the Venetian merchants resident in London, Piero Contarini and Luca Valaresso, to include Henry VII. in the "Holy League," stipulated at Venice on the last day of March 1495, between Pope Alexander VI., Maximilian King of the Romans, Agostino Barbarigo Doge of Venice, and Ludovic Maria Sforza, Englishman (*Anglus*), Duke of Milan.

Venice, 10 Feb. 1496.

[*Latin*, 33 *lines*.]

Feb. 19. Sanuto MS. Diaries. v. i. p. 34.

**676.** MEMORANDUM, that a negotiation being on foot to include the King of England [in the League], and the Signory considering that it was a long way to send ambassadors in safety, the Senate commissioned two Venetian merchants in London, namely, Piero Contarini, late captain of the Baruth galleys, and Luca Valaresso, to go to the King and, as subambassadors in the Signory's name, exhort him either to join [the League] or to form a new league, with forms and clauses like the first, for the preservation of the Roman Church. The Duke of Milan also sent them his commission.

Venice, 19 Feb. 1496.

Feb. 19. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**677.** ZACHARIA CONTARINI to the DOGE and SENATE.

This day had audience of the King of the Romans, to whom he announced that the Signory had determined to commission certain subjects of the State, resident in England, to negotiate, jointly with the delegates of the other confederates, the adhesion of Henry VII. to the Holy League. To this the King of the Romans made answer, that he had recently received letters from the Duke of York (Perkin Warbeck) informing him that his affairs were prospering, and that, through the disturbances imminent in England, he hoped for victory. That it would indeed be unfortunate—as the Duke had embarked in the undertaking at his (the King of the Romans') persuasion, and placed hope in him—if, through the negotiation for bringing Henry VII. into the League, the Duke of York's success should be impeded; by so much the more as, were the Duke of York to obtain the crown, the King of the Romans and the League might avail themselves of England against the King of France as if the island were their own. On this account he (the King of the Romans) was disposed to wait a few days, and see what turn affairs took. In rejoinder, Zacharia Contarini expressed his opinion that with regard to the King of England, two things should be borne in mind:—first, the great advantage which would accrue to the whole League, should it be possible to include him in the confederation, with the obligation to attack the King of France, as at first promised and suggested by the King of the Romans, and subsequently by the Pope through his Legate; and, secondly, the possibility that, for reasons which might be well known to the King of the Romans, the King of England would do as the Spaniards suspected, namely, join France, should the negotiation not be concluded: said he would not omit repeating what the Sovereigns of Spain intimated, namely, that it would be advantageous

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that the King of the Romans should lay aside the affairs of the Duke of York, as this was not the moment for disturbing England, so that each of the allied Sovereigns might simultaneously invade France. The King of the Romans rejoined that he would await advices from Mons. de Beure and his other ambassadors now in England concerning the affairs of the Duke of York, which would reach him in a few days, and that he would then decide.

Brit, (30 miles from Augsburg,) 19 Feb. 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

Feb. 20. Senato Mar.

**678.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Be the consul in London ordered to send forthwith 150 ducats of the London factory's moneys to "Ser" Francesco Donado, for his redemption from captivity in France, [he having been taken out of the Flanders galley in Southampton water by the French.]

Ayes, 171. Noes, 8. Neutrals, 0.

Letter written on 22 February.

[*Italian,* 11 *lines.*]

Feb. 23. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**679.** DOGE AGOSTINO BARBARIGO to FRANCESCO CAPELLO, Venetian Ambassador in Spain.

Has previously acquainted him with the excellent disposition of the State towards admitting Henry VII. into the confederation, as announced likewise by the Venetian ambassador to the King of the Romans, at whose court there is understood to be an English ambassador.

The republic, having been requested to send a power to England (where there were envoys from others of the allies) and authorise negotiations to conclude the King's admission into the League, had sent an order accordingly to Pietro Contarini and Luca Valaresso, resident in London, to treat the affair in accordance with the other envoys, sending them a copy of the clauses, and desiring them, if possible, to bind the King to attack France, as most sagely suggested by the Pope.

As by Capello's letters it appears that Ferdinand and Isabella wish him (Capello) likewise to have a power to include Henry VII. in said confederation, the State sends him another accordingly, and with the obligation, if possible, to attack France, as aforesaid. Should the King of England be unwilling to make an immediate declaration relative to the attack, Capello is at liberty to conclude with the clauses and obligations common to the other confederates, without any addition or diminution.

[*Latin,* 112 *lines.*]

Feb. 23. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**680.** DOGE and SENATE to FRANCESCO CAPELLO.

To the same effect as the letter immediately preceding.

[*Latin,* 111 *lines.*]

Feb. 23. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**681.** ZACHARIA CONTARINI to the DOGE and SENATE.

This evening Dom. Gaspar Mech and Dom. Ludovic Bruno were charged by the King of the Romans to tell him that his

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Majesty is awaiting letters from his ambassadors in England, and on their receipt will decide to the satisfaction of Venice and of all the confederates.

Augsburg, 23 February 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

Feb. 26. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**682.** LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN, to BATTISTA GALARATO, his Ambassador in Spain.

Sends the mandate required for the admission into the League of the King of England, and wishes such admission to take effect speedily, as necessary and beneficial for the League. The ambassador is to pray the King and Queen of Spain to hasten matters.

Milan, 26 February 1496.

[*Original draft, Italian.*]

March 9. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**683.** ZACHARIA CONTARINI to the DOGE and SENATE.

Monsr. de Luprario,* the councillor and master of the household of the Archduke Philip, who arrived here recently from Flanders, states that, since the attack on France by Spain, King Charles has been earnestly endeavouring to form a good friendship and union with King Henry (of England), and is again negotiating a marriage between the daughter of the Duke of Bourbon and that King's son.

Birt, 9 March 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

March 11. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**684.** The SAME to the SAME.

This evening, at the second hour of the night, I received a summons from the King of the Romans, and being introduced into a chamber together with the Milanese ambassador, Dom. Erasmo Brascha, I asked the King of the Romans if he had any news from his ambassadors resident in England. He said he had no letters from his ambassadors, but one of his people who is with the Archduke had written that the King of England is well disposed towards the duchy of Burgundy. I rejoined that I had heard that the King of France was negotiating a marriage between the daughter of the Duke of Bourbon† and the son of King Henry, which, if effected, would be pernicious; wherefore the admission of England into the League ought no longer to be delayed.

The King of the Romans replied that "the Duke of Bourbon's daughter would not leave France. The King of France has his eye on that duchy, and would marry the Duke's daughter in such wise as to enable him on the Duke's death to obtain the duchy for himself."

With reference to the confederation, he believed nothing would be done, but his ambassadors had instructions to conclude it in form as agreed lately.

Birt, 11 March 1496.

[*Original, Italian.*]

* Query Lupyan. See Bergenroth's Calendar, p. 80.

† Daughter of Madame de Beaujeu. She afterwards married her cousin the Comte de Montpensier, who was killed under Rome in 1527; see also Bergenroth's Calendar, January 30, 1496, p. 83.

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March 15.

**685.** The SAME to the SAME.

Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

Having on the 12th instant received the Signory's letters of the 25th and 27th ulto., gave information accordingly to his Majesty, who said he was to go to him after supper.

After showing the summaries of the dispatches written by the Venetian ambassadors in Spain, told him that besides the commission sent by your Serenity to England, for the admission of that King into our confederation, you had also determined to send a similar one to your ambassador in Spain, so that in one place or the other it might be settled to receive him into the League.

"From beginning to end his Majesty listened to me most attentively and graciously, and then having drawn aside for a short while with Dom. Ludovic Bruno," made him answer that my "statements were in every respect acceptable: and in conclusion his Majesty said with his own lips, 'the Signory will destroy all the French in the kingdom of Naples, and we likewise will do some good;' and that tomorrow he would let me know his resolve concerning the Switzers."

Birt, 15 March 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

March 20.

**686.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

Containing instructions to the two Venetian noblemen resident in London, charged to include the King of England in the Holy League.

Ayes, 183. Noes, 4. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin, 12 lines.*]

March 21.

**687.** HENRY VII. and the HOLY LEAGUE.

Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 56.

It is reported that King Henry of England will at any rate join the League, though certain things yet remain for adjustment. This news came from Rome, but letters are expected from London from Piero Contarini and Luca Valaresso.

March 24.

**688.** The DOGE and SENATE to PIETRO CONTARINI and LUCA VALLARESSO, resident in London.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

Have understood from Rome and from the Spanish ambassador that the King of England wishes the confederacy to be reconstructed in England, that he may appear a principal like the others, not an accessory and adherent.

The Signory wishing to oblige his Majesty in all things, and in what concerns his honour, therefore enclose another ample power for that purpose.

This league to contain the same clauses as those of the one in existence already forwarded, without any addition or diminution, save that the Venetian residents are to endeavour to effect that the King of England attack the King of France, in order to turn aside the thoughts of Italy, on which the latter seems to be much bent, and that the Sovereigns of Spain may have less impediment on their frontiers, where they have attacked France. As the King of

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England might object to invading France on the plea of not having been outraged or provoked, desire them to have it declared in the articles of the League, as reasonable, that should the King of England bind himself to invade, it be understood that he has been outraged and provoked.

24 March 1496.

[*Copy, Italian. The document does not exist in the Venetian Archives, but is alluded to in a letter from the Doge and Senate to Contarini and Vallaresso of the 29th March* 1496.]

March 29. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**689.** DOGE AGOSTINO BARBARIGO to PIETRO CONTARINI and LUCA VALLARESSO in London.

The Duke of Milan, wishing to do as we have done with regard to the reconstruction of our holy confederation by including the King of England, as we enjoined you by express on the 24th, and having no one in England whom he can becomingly accredit to that effect, has determined to employ our own subjects in his affairs, and to consign into your hands his power and commission.

We therefore command you in execution of the said power to do for him, touching the reconstruction of the League, as you will do in our name according to our letter of the 24th.

Ayes, 142. Noes, 3. Neutrals, 2.

[*Italian, 20 lines.*]

March 30. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**690.** ZACHARIA CONTARINI to the DOGE and SENATE.

The Spanish ambassadors have received letters from their colleague in England, informing them that King Henry was much satisfied with Lord Egremont's report; that he had appointed two ambassadors to the King of the Romans, who were to set out immediately; that enmity and covert war having, through the disturbances caused by the Duke of York (Perkin Warbeck), arisen between the King of England and the Archduke Philip, a reconciliation had been effected, and a fresh peace concluded, through the mission of Mons. de Beure, on whom the King had bestowed a county in England.

He says, moreover, that the French ambassadors who went to England demanded subsidies of money and troops, and when these were denied them on the plea of want of means, they asked for a fresh ratification of the peace contracted in 1492; and that with regard to this second demand they were despatched with fair words, but without any conclusion, and they departed dissatisfied. He says, in conclusion, that the Duke of York is gone to Scotland, whose King received him with promise of aid and favour.

Through the Neapolitan ambassador, who has likewise received letters from England, Contarini understands that a negotiation is on foot for a marriage between the Prince, the King of England's son, and one of the infantas of Spain.

Augsburg, 30 March 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

1496.
April 1.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**691.** HENRY VII. to LUDOVIC MARIA SFORZA VISCONTI, DUKE of MILAN.

Requests that Robert Sherbourn, his secretary, councillor and ambassador to the Roman court, may travel through the Milanese territories freely and without molestation or impediment; offering to render the like and greater offices to Milane se subjects.

Castle of Shene, 1 April 1496.

*Signed:* "Henricus" (manu propriâ).

[*Original, Latin.*]

April 2.
Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**692.** ZACHARIA CONTARINI to the DOGE and SENATE.

Announces receipt of a missive from the State, dated 19th ult., concerning the affair of the King of England. On Easter Monday, April 4, will proceed in quest of the King of the Romans wherever he may be.

The Spanish ambassadors at Augsburg have received letters from their colleague in England acquainting them with the departure thence of Mons. de Beure,* the Sovereign of Flanders, and the Bailiff of Lille; and stating that the English ambassadors accredited to the King of the Romans were about to set out, the object of their mission being to learn thoroughly the opinion of the King of the Romans relating to the Duke of York's business, concerning which they think the King of England will make stipulations before joining the League.

Augsburg, 2 April 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

April 5.
Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**693.** The SAME to the SAME.

Arrived this evening at Fresce (Fuessen). Went immediately to the King of the Romans.

Informed him that the Venetian government had empowered two Venetian noblemen, resident in England, to stipulate a fresh confederation with the King of England on the terms before stated. Pressed the King of the Romans, by all arguments that seemed applicable, to send a commissioner and delegate to the King of England, by so much the more as the Pope and the other confederates had already despatched their agents to this effect. Dom. Ludovico Bruno, on behalf of the King of the Romans, answered that from the King of England neither good nor evil could be hoped for, as the demonstration made by him of being on good terms with the League, and especially with the King of the Romans, proceeded solely from fear of the King of the Romans favouring the Duke of York, which same fear is entertained by the King of England with regard to the King of France. He (the King of England) will therefore endeavour to remain neutral. Replied that the fear which the King of the Romans declared was felt by the King of England for the Duke of York gave greater hope of obtaining from the King of England what was required; in the first place by joining the league the King of England would make sure of the King of the Romans, and then by attacking the King of France, under favour of

* Philip of Burgundy, Lord de Bevere.

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the confederates, he would compel that King to defend himself and not aid the Duke of York. The King of the Romans rejoined that he had transmitted into the hands of the Spanish ambassador in England ample instructions for receiving the King of England into the confederation according to the form of the clauses, with the condition to attack the King of France; and whatever that ambassador might do, he (the King of the Romans) would consider as ratified; adding that he trusted this matter to the ambassador aforesaid, because it did not become him (the King of the Romans) to seek it himself, by reason of the understanding and articles agreed to between him and the Duke of York.

"Ex faucibus montium" (? Fuessen), 5 April 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

April 9. Senato Mar.

**694.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the debts of the London factory, for whose extinction the Act of 1491, imposing a duty of 7*d.* in the pound on all goods imported or exported between Venice and England, is to be rigorously enforced.

[*Italian, 22 lines.*]

April 12. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**695.** The DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR at Milan.

The Duke of Milan knows, with regard to the entry into the Holy League of the King of England, how very ready the State has shown itself to this effect, by reason of the irritation thus caused to the King of France, who will have reason to conduct his affairs with more reserve. If the Duke of Milan be of opinion that it would be advisable for the Signory to take further steps in this matter, the Doge and Senate will adhere to whatever he may suggest thereon. They approve his suggestion to use every effort with the King of the Romans to give orders to his forces on the frontiers of Burgundy to keep the French on the alarm, so that they may have to keep watch in their own home, and have less cause to come into Italy.

[*Latin, 104 lines.*]

April 15. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**696.** ZACHARIA CONTARINI to the DOGE and SENATE.

By an express from Milan on his way to England, the Milanese ambassador, Dom. Erasmo Brascha, received a copy of the commission which the Duke was sending to Dom. Pietro Contarini and Dom. Luca Valaresso in England. This he showed to all the ambassadors, including myself; and as it seemed to the Spaniards that the power from the King of the Romans in the hands of the Spanish ambassador (in England) was not so ample and special as this one, we today, all in a body, prevailed on the King of the Romans to charge Dom. Pietro da Trieste to issue another commission to the Spanish ambassador aforesaid, of the same tenor as that of the Duke of Milan; and it will be sent to England by the same Milanese courier.

Augsburg, 15 April 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

1496.
April 17. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**697.** The SAME to the SAME.

Repeated to the King of the Romans what the Sovereigns of Spain suggested to him, namely, that the most effectual policy to humble France would be for his Majesty to attack France from Burgundy or in Champagne; and although he lacked the means of raising so powerful an army as might be wished, nevertheless, when commanded by his Majesty in person, a very small force marshalled on those frontiers would suffice, especially should France be invaded at other points by Spain and England, as might be, provided his Majesty urge the matter.

Augsburg, 17 April 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

April 30. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**698.** The SAME to the SAME.

The ambassador from the King of England, Dño Çhristophoro de Ursich (Christopher Urswick), the Almoner of the said King, has arrived. He is come with 12 horses. As a mark of honour on his entry, the King of the Romans sent some of his councillors to meet him; Contarini in like manner, with the other ambassadors went in advance of him. He does not choose to receive any visits until after he has paid his respects to his Majesty (the King of the Romans).

Augsburg, 30 April 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

May 6. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**699.** The SAME to the SAME.

On the 3rd instant when the King of the Romans came into Augsburg, the English ambassador entered his presence, and after the usual salutations reserved for his next audience to impart what had been commissioned him by his King.

I went to visit this ambassador, who had previously not received any one, addressing him in terms suited to the amity which has ever prevailed between the Kings of England and the Signory, and reminded him of what I considered the wish and intention of your Serenity.

He answered with great courtesy, and said that your Serenity was the first to congratulate his King on his accession, and to style him King of England, that his Majesty has your letter with the pendent silver seal,* that in the following year the King sent him ambassador to your Serenity to thank you,† and that his King held the Signory in the greatest possible consideration and account. He next asked me for news of Italian affairs, and adroitly inquired about the peace made between the Duke of Milan and the King of France,‡ what subsidies and amount of troops the King

* "*Bulla argentea munite.*"

† There is no note of this embassy in the Venetian Archives, but Marin Sanuto's "Lives of the Doges" (MS. in St. Mark's Library) contains the following entry:—"1487, 23rd August, there came into this town the Count of St. Paul's, ambassador from the King of England, on his way to Rome. Great honour was paid him." If in 1486-7 Sir Christopher Urswick had any church preferment in St. Paul's, it may be supposed that Sanuto converted some deanery or canonry into a county.

‡ The peace of Novara.

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of the Romans sent last year in aid of the League, and what he was doing at present. I, to whom it appeared that the ambassador was putting these questions to me mysteriously, and with reference to the business which he has come to negotiate here with his Majesty, gave him in the first place a succinct account of the French King's coming into Italy; adding that his Holiness, the King of the Romans, and the King of Spain, for the welfare of the Christian commonwealth, of the Apostolic See and of the Roman Empire, and for the preservation of the mutual territories, had thought fit to promote the most Holy League, which was subsequently concluded and sealed in Venice, as he must be aware: that as it was evident that the King of France did not content himself with the grants of fortune, but aspired to greater acquisitions, having already revolutionized and openly invaded the territories of the Church, so as to render it necessary for the Pope to absent himself from Rome—doing the like moreover by many cities, both imperial and Milanese—it became necessary for all the confederates to resort to arms. After narrating the battle of Fornovo and the other events of the war, I said that the King of the Romans had sent 7,000 men into Italy, including horse and foot, keeping 5,000 besides on the confines of Burgundy, and that had more been required either in one quarter or the other, more would have been sent by him.

I deemed it well somewhat to exaggerate these details about the King of the Romans, because I have heard through a good channel that the King of England has evinced and continues evincing great doubt of the King of the Romans doing anything against France, and limits himself to saying, that unless the King of the Romans commence, he himself will never act. I told him that the peace which the Duke of Milan made last year with the King of France was stipulated with reservation of all the articles of the Holy League, the which had remained entire and unshaken.

I reminded him of the inroad made by the Sovereigns of Spain (at Perpignan),* and stated, moreover, what was being done at present in favour of the King of Naples, especially by your Serenity, and also in favour of the Pisans and Siennese; and what the League was ready to do in favour of each of the confederates whensoever requisite. Here I told him how the King of the Romans had sent into Italy and in aid of the Pisans the troops demanded of him, and was ready to peril his kingdom and his own person for the benefit of the most Holy League. In conclusion, I said that had this confederation not been formed, not Italy alone but the territories also in the neighbourhood of France would have been in the greatest danger.

The ambassador seemed to be very much obliged by this information, and said that he likewise was come to negotiate this affair of confederation, and that it was the intention of his King to do

* See Giovio, and Guicciardini, vol. i. p. 228. In date Tortosa, 30 January 1496, p. 85 of Bergenroth's Calendar, mention is made of a proclamation of war by Charles VIII. against Spain; and again at p. 88, of the commencement of hostilities. At p. 95, date 26 April 1496, it would seem that Ferdinand had not then invaded France in person.

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everything he could against France in honour and without detriment to his kingdom and subjects; for, to use his own words, the French are England's greatest and oldest enemies, occupying the whole of Normandy, and the duchy of Anjou and Guienne, which belonged to the English Crown; but that King Henry was compelled to be much on the watch against the youth who says he is the son of King Edward and went lately to Scotland, whose King received him with many promises—the which King is linked by an indissoluble understanding and league to the King of France, and although the poorest king in Christendom, yet all his subjects are bound to serve him in person and at their own expense, during three weeks in the course of every year, on any expedition he may undertake; and for that period he can bring 50,000 men into the field.

He ended by saying that he will communicate to me what he negotiates with the King of the Romans, but that he first must have full audience of his Majesty.

He told me that on the road he met a French ambassador bound to England, who informed him that a friar, the confessor of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, had come privily to the King of France.*

Augsburg, 6 May 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

May 15. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**700.** ZACHARIA CONTARINI to the DOGE and SENATE.

On Wednesday last the King of the Romans returned to Augsburg, on the morrow gave audience to the English ambassador, and yesterday assigned him auditors, namely the Count of Cornia, Dño Vito Uichstaner (Wolckenstein), and Dño Conrad Sturcen, who held a long conference with him.

Today his Majesty convoked all the ambassadors of the League, including the writer, and through Monsr. de Lupiano (Lupyan?) † and Dño Ludovico Bruno intimated to them, that the English ambassador had been twice with the King and once with the commissioners appointed him: that, from what each of them could apprehend, he was merely come to spy, and investigate the projects of the King both about the League and the Duke of York, notwithstanding which his Majesty had not failed urging him to join the confederation; and the discovery made by them was, that King Henry does not intend to break with the King of France, but wishes to join the League merely on the condition that it should not give subsidy or favour to any party waging war on him. The King of the Romans wished therefore to have the opinion of the ambassadors whether he should dissemble with Sir Christopher Urswick and dismiss him with fair words, or, on the contrary, let him see that he did not approve of his policy.

* Concerning this occult mission from Spain to France, see Bergenroth's Calendar, pp. 93–94, date Daroca, 14 April 1496; and Almazan, 26 April 1496.

† See Bergenroth, p. 80.

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After a preamble setting forth the great benefit that would accrue to the Holy League by rendering Henry VII. a member of it, most especially with the obligation to attack France, the ambassadors answered unanimously that he (the King of the Romans) should by no means dissemble with Sir Christopher, or dismiss him; but in such form as of his wisdom he should deem most expedient, request the King of England to join the League, with the obligation to attack France. Should all such exertions fail to obtain this result, the ambassadors proposed that the King of England should be admitted on the mere terms imposed on the other confederates, expressing their conviction that this second arrangement would not be rejected by King Henry, as he had already declared to the ambassadors at his court that he was well disposed so to do.

Contarini and his colleagues then offered, should the King of the Romans approve, to mediate with Sir Christopher Urswick and do all that was possible to bring the matter to the desired conclusion; whereupon Dom. Ludovic Bruno and Monsr. Lupiano took leave, saying they would acquaint the King of the Romans with the views of the ambassadors.

Augsburg, 15 May 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

May 20. **701.** ZACHARIA CONTARINI to the DOGE and SENATE.

Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

Had detained his letters until the present day, awaiting Sir Christopher Urswick's next audience of the King of the Romans, that he might give account of it; but as the conference will probably not take place for the next three days, the King of the Romans being very much occupied in regulating matters for discussion at the diet of Ulm, does not think fit to wait any longer.

Augsburg, 17 May 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

May 17. **702.** The SAME to the SAME.

Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

After the despatch of his last letters on the 17th, conferred again with the English ambassador, who repeated the statement made by him to the King of the Romans, namely, that the King of England, having been requested by the Pope, the King of the Romans, Spain, Venice, and Milan, to join the Holy League, was well disposed so to do, but that, being now at enmity with the Kings of Scotland and of Denmark, and entertaining suspicion of the Duke of York and of other rebels in Ireland, he does not see how he can wage offensive war against the King of France, or even furnish the subsidies required by the clauses for a defensive war, both on account of his being at so great a distance from the confederates and by reason of the enmity and suspicions aforesaid. Remarked it was better not to promise than to make default, and that were the clause relating to subsidies cancelled, and the articles of the confederation revised and equalised, that part most especially being limited, and mention made solely of those having territory in Italy, the King of England would join the League; and, should his affairs subsequently assume a firm footing, he would then do all in

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his power compatible with his own honour and the safety of his subjects, adding that much might be hoped from him.

On the 20th May Contarini and the ambassadors from Spain and Milan went to the King of the Romans, on a summons from him, to discuss the despatch of Sir Christopher Urswick. The King told them that in execution of their recent suggestions he had again conferred with Urswick, but being unable to obtain any addition to the original offer, he expressed himself thus: "Your King refuses to wage war on the King of France and also to afford subsidy to the confederates in defensive war, by reason of the suspicion he entertains of his enemies, and then proposes a compromise with us, promising not to help any one who may attack us! This promise amounts to nothing, for if unable to succour us, neither could he aid our enemies."

The King of the Romans then said that he would ask Urswick, in the presence of the ambassadors, whether the King of England would aid the Pope, the King of the Romans, and the other kings and princes of the Holy League, and be bound by the same clauses and obligations as the other confederates; stating further to him the perils and accidents which might befall England should the French King's affairs proceed according to the latter's plans, and on the other hand the great benefits that would accrue to the King of England in the event of his joining the League and waging war on France: and that on hearing Urswick's rejoinder he (the King of the Romans) would consult with the ambassadors upon the ultimatum to be given.

Thereupon Sir Christopher Urswick was sent for to the court, and on his arrival Dñs Conrad Sturzen explained to him, in a suitable and very flowery discourse, what the King of the Romans had proposed. The ambassador's reply was in accordance with the statement already made; and when urged to levy war and invade France, he stated he was not aware that any of the allies had proceeded to such an act save the Sovereigns of Spain, nor was it just that his King, being the last to join the confederation, should be amongst the first to invade: and that, speaking for himself, it seemed to him fitting, should this war be waged, to stipulate the amount of troops with which each of the allies was to make the attack; how long the war was to last; in what manner the conquered provinces and places were to be distributed; and that none of the parties should be at liberty to make peace, truce, or any other agreement, without the express consent of the rest. He ended by saying that, not having any commission, he would acquaint his King with what the King of the Romans had caused to be intimated to him.

When he had done speaking, the King of the Romans made him withdraw, and said to the ambassadors: "Should you approve, we will dismiss this ambassador, and send our own ambassadors immediately after him to negotiate this affair with the representatives of the other confederates, and also to negotiate some form of agreement between him, the King of Scotland, the Duke of York and others his enemies, provided he bind himself to attack the King of France;" and the King of the Romans asked us our opinion, to which he

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said he should adhere. We answered unanimously that although he needed no counsel, nevertheless we would tell him that we deemed it more expedient to detain the ambassador here, and ask him to write to his King what had been told him, so that the King of England being thus acquainted with the intention of the other confederates, might deliberate and conclude with less loss of time: on the other hand, should Sir Christopher Urswick seem more disposed to depart than to remain, in that case he (the King of the Romans) should give him good and gracious leave, and refer these negotiations to the commissioners in England, without sending other ambassadors there.

Says that the reason for persuading the King of the Romans not to send ambassadors was twofold—first, because his commission was already in the hands of the Spanish ambassadors, who would doubtless negotiate the matter with greater care and pains, so as to bring it to a good end, than the proper ambassadors of the King of the Romans, who indeed, to confess the truth, assented with some little difficulty, on account of the Duke of York; and, secondly, because the missions of the King of the Romans were wont to be more tardy than the need required.

The King of the Romans replied, that were Sir Christopher Urswick of another nature than he is, the suggestion of the ambassadors to detain him would have been excellent, but that as he (Urswick) had been previously accredited to the King of the Romans, and having been suborned by the French, made an unfavourable report of the King of the Romans to King Henry VII., which induced the latter to make peace with France, the King of the Romans knew that to detain Urswick could not produce any good result, and he also believed Urswick would not remain willingly. The King of the Romans assented not to send ambassadors, but said that until the King of England was safe from the Duke of York, and from those who favour the latter, he would never attack the King of France nor give subsidy to the confederation; and he therefore thought it advisable to promise that immediately on the King of England joining the League, the confederates would send their ambassadors to arrange these differences. Thus in substance was Urswick told in our presence, and that within three days the King of the Romans would give him gracious leave.

Augsburg, 20 May 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

May 30.

Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**703.** ZACHARIA CONTARINI to the DOGE and SENATE.

Announces the departure of Sir Christopher Urswick, in accordance with the contents of the foregoing letter.

Augsburg, 30 May 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

June 4.

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**704.** DOGE AGOSTINO BARBARIGO to PIETRO CONTARINI and LUCA VALLARESSO, resident in London.

Have acquainted you with our intention relative to admitting the King of England into our confederation. As it might happen that for certain personal considerations his Majesty might not

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choose to bind himself to attack France, we are content that he join the League as it stands, or that it be renewed without binding him to wage war on France—provided he bind himself in no case to France; we are willing to give a similar guarantee not to assist France against England. We are certain that the like undertaking will be given you by the Duke of Milan, and that our other confederates will write in the like sense to their commissioners, in concert with whom you will act.

Regulate your proceedings with address,—first of all attempting to induce the King to attack France, and then to accept the formal articles of the League. Last of all, you will propose this last arrangement as aforesaid. Give notice of this to Rome, Milan, and to the King of the Romans.

Ayes, 168. Noes, 4. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian*, 28 *lines.*]

June 8. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**705.** HENRY VII. to LUDOVIC MARIA SFORZA, Englishman (*Anglo**), DUKE of MILAN, &c.

We have read your Highness's letters of credence dated the 5th April, and heard your commissioners, Pietro Contarini and Luca Valaresso, in the presence of the ambassador of the Sovereigns of Castile. We understood the statement made to us on behalf of your Highness, and conferred with your said commissioners at great length, as we trust they will inform your Highness, for we will readily be a party to anything not repugnant either to reason or to our dignity. From our Castle of Shene, 8th day of June 1496.

*Signed:* "Henricus R." (*m.p.*)

[*Original, Latin.*]

June 14. Letter Book, St. Mark's Library.

**706.** ZACHARIA CONTARINI to the DOGE and SENATE.

Has been told by Dom. Erasmo Brascha that the King of the Romans was greatly surprised at hearing, by the courier from Milan, that the King of England had sent an ambassador to France, to arrange the disputes with the King of Naples; and that Sir Christopher Urswick made no mention soever of this to him (the King of the Romans). Brascha affirmed what the King of the Romans said heretofore, namely, that by reason of the King of England's suspicion of the Duke of York, he will endeavour to be on good terms with everybody, and on no account quarrel with the King of France.

Augsburg, 14 June 1496.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

June 15 Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 158.

**707.** Receipt of letters from PIERO CONTARINI and LUCA VALARESSO, the Signory's submandatories in England, announcing that King Henry was in dread of being expelled the kingdom by his nephew, the Duke of York, then in Scotland, whose King meant to assist him, and had given him a niece of his in marriage. The League, nevertheless, was in course of negotiation.

* Query, a naturalized Englishman in right of some privilege conceded to the Lords of Milan at the time of the marriage of the Duke of Clarence to Violante Visconti.

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Note by Sanuto: that King Henry had recently sent Master Fulburn as his ambassador to Rome, where the matter was treated; that the ambassador had returned to the King; and that at length the treaty is concluded.

[*Italian.*]

June 24. Commemoriali, No. 18, p. 56.

**708.** POWER given by DOGE AGOSTINO BARBARIGO, on behalf of the Republic of Venice, to the Venetian Ambassador in Rome, Nicolo Michiel, authorizing him to include Henry VII. in the Holy League.

Venice, 24 June 1496.

[*Latin, 67 lines.*]

July 10. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**709.** The DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR at ROME.

By his last letters dated the 5th, perceive the point to which the negotiation with the English ambassador seems to have been brought, touching the conclusion of the new League with his King.

Approve of his (the Venetian ambassador's) proceeding cautiously; and, considering that the formula of a certain clause seems to be omitted, and in order that he may comprehend the intention of the State and conclude the business without delay, acquaint him with two things.

First, that they are content that he conclude the treaty, even omitting the said clause, with such agreements, terms, and conditions as can be obtained most to the advantage of the Holy League, provided they be mutual and reciprocal on both sides, and that the obligation of the one party be not greater than that of the other; so that at any rate, should this inclusion of the King of England in the league bear no other fruit, it may at least give repute and a guarantee that he will not lend assistance or favour to the King of the French.

Secondly, that he (the Venetian ambassador) take especial care that in whatever form the new League be concluded, a new and separate clause be first of all stipulated between the Pope and all the ambassadors of the confederates, to the effect that by no means soever are any of the clauses, obligations, and conditions of the original Holy League to be lessened in value.

Ayes, 160. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 0.

July 10. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**710.** The DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR with the DUKE of MILAN.

Allude to summaries sent him on the preceding day of letters from the ambassador in Rome, concerning the inclusion in the Holy League of the King of England. In the present letter enclose a copy of the Signory's reply, for communication as usual to the Duke of Milan.

[*Latin, 24 lines.*]

1496.
July 14.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**711.** HENRY VII. to LUDOVIC MARIA SFORZA VISCONTI, DUKE of MILAN, COUNT of PAVIA and ANGLERIA, and LORD of GENOA and CREMONA.

Complimentary letter in answer to one of the same nature brought by the Duke's subject Christopher Carbonaro.

Southampton, 14th day of July, 1496.

*Signed:* "Henricus R." (*m.p.*)

[*Original, Latin.*]

July 18.
Commemoriali, No. 18, p. 87.

**712.** RECONTRACT of the HOLY LEAGUE on the accession to it of HENRY VII.

Allusion to the original League, stipulated at Venice on the last day of March 1495, which has remained until now in force. The Pope, together with the aforesaid confederates and colleagues, considering how much King Henry VII. would benefit this Holy League, requested him to join the confederacy or stipulate it afresh, especially as Charles King of the French coming last year into Italy with a powerful army occupied the kingdom of Naples, the special patrimony of St. Peter, the citadel of Ostia belonging to the Roman Church, and many of its towns, usurping the rights of the holy empire in Italy; and he is now making daily preparations for his return thither: so that, unless the confederates aforesaid and other catholic princes make provision and prevent it, the whole of Italy and Christendom is feared to be in very great peril.

On these accounts, the King of England, considering how much mischief might ensue to Christendom, nor wishing holy mother Church to be thus persecuted—having first of all through a formal ambassador charged the aforesaid King of the French utterly to desist from these wars, to restore the kingdom of Naples and Ostia, and accept the just mediation of his Holiness as frequently proposed to him—then solemnly appointed Robert Sherbourn, Archdeacon of Buckingham, [the King's] secretary and councillor, as procurator and ambassador to his Holiness, to stipulate amongst other things what is contained herein.

Formal acknowledgment of the power, by the papal notary, in the presence of the Pope, who then renewed the League and signed it, as did Phillibert Naturelli on behalf of Maximilian, Garcilasso della Vega for Spain, Nicolò Michiel for Venice, Cardinal Ascanius Sforza for Milan, all and each of them thus recognizing the entry into the league of Henry VII., through his ambassador Robert Sherbourn.

*Then follows the ratification, as in Rymer, vol. xii., page* 638, *date Windsor,* 23*d September* 1496, *commencing with the words "Et primo supranominati," and ending "Et specialiter requisitis et rogatis."*

Rome, 18 July 1496.

[*Latin,* 233 *lines.*]

July 22.
Commemoriali, No. 18, p. 91.

**713.** BRIEF from POPE ALEXANDER VI., granting plenary indulgence on the day of the solemn publication of the League in St. Mark's Church at Venice.

Rome, 22 July 1496.

[*Latin,* 27 *lines.*]

1496.
July 31. **714.** PROCLAMATION of the HOLY LEAGUE.

Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 184.

On Sunday the 31st July, procession made in Venice for the publication of the League. In the church of St. Mark the Patriarch celebrated high mass. On the 26th July, a papal brief arrived, granting plenary absolution.

The bells were rung for three days, bonfires were also burnt. The new League was published by a crier in Venice, and likewise at Rome and Milan on the same day.

Publication of the new League, as follows:—

That at Rome on the 18th instant a League was concluded between Pope Alexander VI., Maximilian King of the Romans, Ferdinand and Isabella, King and Queen of Spain, Henry King of England, the Signory of Venice, and Ludovic Maria Sforza, Duke of Milan, with a view to the peace and tranquillity of Italy, and to the welfare of the Christian commonwealth; to last for 25 years, and further, at the good pleasure of the parties, for the maintenance of the authority of the papal see, for the preservation of the rights of the Holy Roman Empire, and for the defence and preservation of the territories of each of the contracting parties.

The proclamation was immediately printed, with the following verses written above the portraits of the allies:—

"This is Pope Alexander, who corrects
The errors of the world by laws divine."—*Pope.*

"Long life to the Cæsarean Emperor August,
King of the Romans, Maximilian the Just."—*Maximilian.*

"This is the great King of Spain and his Queen,
Who of the Infidels made havoc extreme."—*Spain.*

"This is that King who will yet cause consternation
To every foe of the firm confederation."—*England.*

"Potent in war, and the friend of peace,
Venice ever loves the common weal."—*Venice.*

"This is he in whose hand is the sceptre of justice,
Who rules the happy state of Milan."—*Milan.*

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 3. **715.** LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN, to HENRY VII.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

Has heard from Rome that the King has become a party to the League, and rejoices accordingly.

Girani, 3 August 1496.

[*Original draft, Latin.*]

Aug. 17. **716.** The SAME to the SAME.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

Perceived that amongst the stipulations made on the King's entering the League, two concerned himself; first, that he was to ratify the entry according to the instrument, and, secondly, to name his adherents and confederates. Enclosed letters accordingly, and requests the King to acknowledge the receipt of them.

Milan, 17 August 1496.

[*Latin, 17 lines.*]

1496.
Aug. 29. Commemoriali, No. 18, p. 92.

**717.** RATIFICATION of the renewal of the HOLY LEAGUE by Ludovic Sforza, Duke of Milan, on the accession to it of Henry VII.

Milan, 29 August 1496.

[*Latin*, 57 *lines.*]

Sept. 8. Commemoriali, No. 18, p. 95.

**718.** RATIFICATION transmitted to Rome by the REPUBLIC of VENICE of the renewal of the Holy League, on the accession to it of Henry VII.

Venice, 8 September 1496.

Similar ratifications forwarded to the Venetian ambassadors in England, Milan, Spain, and with the King of the Romans.

[*Latin*, 29 *lines.*]

Sept. 15. Commemoriali, No. 18, p. 95.

**719.** The DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR in Rome.

Enclose the Signory's ratification of the recontracted League for presentation to the Pope. Are of opinion that the State has sufficiently fulfilled the article of the treaty newly stipulated with the King of England.

Venice, 15 September 1496.

[*Latin*, 13 *lines.*]

Sept. 16. Commemoriali, No. 18, p. 95.

**720.** The DOGE and SENATE to the DUKE of MILAN.

Acknowledges the receipt of his ratification of the League.

Venice, 16 September 1496.

[*Latin*, 14 *lines.*]

Oct. 10. Commemoriali, No. 18, p. 97.

**721.** CERTIFICATE from the DUKE of MILAN, testifying the receipt of the Venetian ratification of the League.

Gropello, 10 October 1496.

[*Latin*, 22 *lines.*]

Oct. 16. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**722.** RATIFICATION by FERDINAND and ISABELLA of Spain of the League stipulated at Venice on the last day of March 1495.

To this League the King of England has become a party, through his secretary, ambassador, and procurator, Robert Sherbourn, Archdeacon of Buckingham; as the Pope in his own name, Philibert Naturelli, provost of Salm, ambassador of the King of the Romans, Garcilasso della Vega, Spanish ambassador and procurator, Nicolò Michiel, procurator and ambassador of the Doge and Signory of Venice, and Ascanius Maria Sforza, Cardinal Deacon, Vicechancellor, brother and commissioner of the Duke of Milan, accepted and admitted the said Robert Sherbourn on behalf of the King of England as a party to the League, and renewed it with him.

The Sovereigns of Spain ratify the foregoing admission according to the articles of the new League, stipulating that such was to be done by the contracting parties within three months from the day of its date.

Logrono, 16 October 1496.

*Signed:* Yo el Re (*m. p.*)
Yo la Regina (*m. p.*)

[*Latin.*]

1496.
Oct. 22.
Commemoriali, No. 18, p. 98.

**723.** CERTIFICATE from MAXIMILIAN, KING of the ROMANS, acknowledging receipt of the Venetian ratification of the League.
Pisa, 22 October 1496.
[*Latin*, 20 *lines.*]

Oct. 22.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**724.** The DOGE and SENATE to FRANCESCO CAPELLO, Ambassador in Spain.
Capello is to congratulate the King of Spain and his consort on the marriage of the prince, their only son, and announce that the Doge and Senate have heard with satisfaction of the new marriage treaty formed with the King of England, and of the intention of Ferdinand to incite the King of England against the King of France.
[*Latin*, 56 *lines.*]

Oct. 29.
Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 299.

**725.** HENRY VII. to DOGE AGOSTINO BARBARIGO.
Acknowledges receipt of two letters from him, dated 1st of September, the one touching the confirmation of the League between the Pope, the King of the Romans, Spain, Venice, and Milan, lately stipulated at Rome by the Signory, the other giving the names of the Signory's adherents and those recommended by them; and reserving the right to nominate others within the stated period. Has seen the letters willingly, and carefully noted the clients (*comendatos*) and adherents, whom he admitted readily.
Understanding moreover that both the Doge and the rest of the Italian confederates have been very much gladdened by his entry into the League and made public rejoicings, he, within three days, on the festival of All Saints, intended celebrating his own joy at said League by a solemn procession in the cathedral church of St. Paul's, in his capital, London, and on that same day purposed receiving with due respect the Sword and Cap of Maintenance, sent to him by the Pope; all which things he thought fit to notify to his Highness by reason of their mutual friendship and alliance.
[*Latin*, 21 *lines.*]

Remark by Sanuto:
The King of England had caused the League to be solemnly proclaimed in the cathedral by the Cardinal Archbishop of Canterbury, his Lord Chancellor. This King Henry has for wife Madame Elizabeth, daughter of the late King Edward, for he expelled King Richard, the brother of the said King Edward. He has two sons, Arthur, Prince of Wales, which is an island, and the other is Duke of York.
Entered 8 December.

Nov. 1.
Commemoriali, No. 18, p. 98.

**726.** BRIEF from POPE ALEXANDER VI. to DOGE AGOSTINO BARBARIGO, acknowledging that the Venetian ambassador, the English ambassador, and the Milanese ambassador have presented to him the respective letters of ratification of the renewed League.
Rome, 1 November 1496.
[*Latin*, 17 *lines.*]

1496.
Nov. 13. Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 277.

**727.** ARRIVAL this day in Venice of LUCA VALARESSO, who had been a merchant in London and was the person commissioned, together with Piero Contarini, to induce the King of England to join the League.

He went into the College and gave some account of that King; so, having acted well, he is placed in the Diary. Owing to the war between England and Scotland near at hand the island was in a disturbed state, and it had been reported lately that the English and Scotch fought a battle in which 15,000 men were killed; and the cause of the war was that the Duke of York had taken [for wife] a kinswoman of the King of Scotland, and meant to invade and seize the kingdom of England, as he was the son of King Edward.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 29. Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 283.

**728.** EMBASSY to ENGLAND.

Election this day in the Senate of three ambassadors, to Milan, to the King of the Romans, and to England, namely, Marco Lipomano, Georgio Pisani, and Andrea Trevisano.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 29. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**729.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning an EMBASSY to ENGLAND.

That an ambassador be elected to the King of England; the person elected not to refuse to serve, under penalty of 500 ducats, and all other penalties according to the Act against recusants.

He is to take with him twelve horses and two stirrup men (*stapherios*=running footmen), a notary of our chancery, and his servant.

Ayes, 163. Noes, 36. Neutrals, 0.

Elected: "Ser" Andrea Trevisano, son of the Procurator "Ser" Tomà.

[*Italian, 9 lines.*]

Dec. 5. Senato Terra.

**730.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Georgio Pisani, ambassador elect to the King of the Romans, Andrea Trevisano, ambassador elect to the King of England, and Marco Lippomano, ambassador elect to Milan, to sit in the Senate until their departure, that they may be duly instructed.

Ayes, 153. Noes, 13. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin, 6 lines.*]

Dec. 8. Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 304.

**731.** RECEIPT of LETTERS from LONDON, dated 17 November, concerning the satisfaction of Henry VII. at the demonstration made by the confederates for the publication of the League, which was to be proclaimed in London on 1st December (*sic*), and that the King had written a congratulatory letter on the subject, as already copied.

[*Italian.*]

1496.
Dec. 15. **732.** LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN, to HENRY VII.
Sforza Archives, Milan. Acknowledges the receipt of his letter, dated Westminster, 29 October, announcing the receipt of two letters from the Duke confirming the league made at Rome.
Milan, 15 December 1496.
[*Draft, Latin.*]

Dec. 23. **733.** DECREE of the SENATE.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. As King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain have not received letters from Italy, the Venetian ambassadors shall inform them how, in the present case, when France, the common enemy of the League, aspires to the empire of the whole world, the Republic has resolved to thwart the French designs, which seem to be directed against Genoa, and consequently against Italy. The Signory will make a vigorous defence, both by land and sea. The State is of opinion that all the other confederates will do the like, but will, nevertheless, urge them to this effect, especially the King of England, to whom an ambassador has been already appointed. The Pope, the Duke of Milan, and the Signory will urge the King of England to attack France.
[*Italian, 44 lines.*]

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Feb. 10. **734.** HENRY VII. to LUDOVIC MARIA SFORZA ANGLO, DUKE of MILAN.*
Sforza Archives, Milan.
Has received the names of the Duke's colleagues and adherents and of those recommended by him.
Westminster, 10 February 1496[-97].
*Signed:* "Henricus" (*manu propriâ*).
[*Original, Latin.*]

March 2. **735.** NEWS from ENGLAND.
Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 391. Letters received from Almoro Pisani of the bank, Venetian consul in London, and Piero Contarini, submandatory, dated 28th January, announcing the arrival on the 26th of the Signory's letters to the King of England, in reply to his missive as to the conclusion of the League and its publication. The Duke of York was in Scotland, and with the aid of the King of Scots had so harassed England, that King Henry was determined to march against him with a large force. King Henry had laid a tax on the prelates, which it was said would yield about 180,000*l.* sterling, equal to 700,000 ducats. It was also reported that he had married one of his daughters to Monsieur de Rohan, who claims the duchy of Britanny, now held by the King of France, which would be a sign of his meditating

* The title of Anglo Duke of Milan was used by Filippo Mario Visconti in 1427, and in 1494 it had been already resumed by Ludovic Sforza. It seems probable that the Visconti family had been naturalized by Edward III. in 1365, when Lionel Duke of Clarence married Violante Visconti, and that the title was adopted in allusion to that matrimonial alliance; but, as already stated, Sanuto has preserved a letter written by a Milanese antiquary in December 1494, showing that even then no voucher existed for any authentic etymology of this title.

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hostilities against France. The English complain that on account of these wars, the State's Flanders galleys no longer go there as usual.

Entered 2 March 1497.

[*Italian.*]

March 22. **736.** LETTERS from HENRY VII. to the SIGNORY.

Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 408. The Signory received letters from the King of England, requesting the State to send the Flanders galleys, and states he was anxiously expecting the Venetian ambassador to confer with him on the affairs of Italy and the League; so Andrea Trevisan, ambassador elect, was summoned by the Senate and desired to prepare for instant departure.

Entered 22 March 1497.

[*Italian.*]

April 4. **737.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Senato Terra. As this Council elected Andrea Trivisano, ambassador to the King of England, with only twelve horses and two stirrup-men, and as the said ambassador should journey honourably to said King, to whom no ambassador of ours has been sent for a very long while; the English nation moreover requiring what follows: our ambassador shall be allowed four horses besides the horses and retinue which he was already desired to take, so that he may have 16 horses and two stirrup-men, and go more honourably, as becomes the dignity of our State.

Ayes, 89. Noes, 41. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin*, 8 *lines.*]

April 19. **738.** HENRY VII. to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Sforza Archives, Milan. Last year sent our household servant, Antonio Spinola, Genoese citizen, to the Pope, with certain commissions; and now hear from him that his return to us is delayed solely by his inability to recover a certain sum of money due to him in Milan. Request that justice be done to Spinola, and that his debtors do pay him in full, without loss of time, so that he may return forthwith. From the Tower of London, 19th day of April 1497.

*Signed:* "Henricus" (*m. p.*)

[*Latin.*]

May 9. **739.** DECREE of the SENATE concerning the Wool Trade.

Senato Mar. The benefit derived by the city, and especially by the populace, from the woollen trade, being notorious to the Senate, and there being now a scarcity of wool, to the great prejudice of the city, and especially of the people—the galleys not having been sent on the Flanders voyage; and as provision should be made with all speed for the conveyance to Venice of wool by all ways and means; the ships Foscara and Pasqualiga, now on the Flanders voyage, shall be bound on any demand from our merchants, to bring from England wools, cloths, tin, and every other sort of merchandise for this our city, without payment of any freight to the Flanders galleys lately

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arrived, nor to such as shall hereafter undertake that voyage; any other Act passed notwithstanding. The shippers to pay but half the amount of freight usually paid to the large galleys, and to be exempt from all ordinary average. The ships to be allowed three months' time for loading after their arrival at Hampton, the term to commence on the arrival of this decree in London; should the ships not have already arrived at Hampton, the term to commence on the day of their arrival there. The cloths, wools, and other merchandise thus brought to Venice, whether by Venetians or aliens, to pay the usual duties, as likewise the quota to the London factory; the ships not to load the goods of aliens until after shipment of those belonging to Venetians.

For the safe return of these vessels, the ship Foscara to have a crew of 200 men, including those already on board. The ship Pasqualiga, which is to go into the Thames, to return to Hampton within the above written term of three months—taking as many as 120 hands; the two ships to make the homeward voyage in company, for their greater safety, under penalty to the masters of 500 ducats, and of being prohibited from acting as masters of any ships for 10 years.

The consul in London to call the muster roll on board these ships, and send it under seal to Venice, that the necessary steps may be taken in case of the transgression of these orders.

The merchandize thus brought to Venice to have the same privileges as goods brought by the Flanders galleys.

To provide for the great want of wool in Venice, all persons, both Venetians and aliens, may bring Frankish wools (*lane Francese*)* to this city by land, through Germany, paying one-fourth freight to Piero Bragadin, who returned lately as master of one of the Flanders galleys; and all wools and white cloths sent by land, from this time forth until the end of March 1498, to pay in like manner during that period one-fourth freight.

Ayes, 150. Noes, 11. Neutrals, 2.

[*Italian, 55 lines.*]

June 6. Senato Mar.

**740.** DECREE of the SENATE authorizing Andrea Trevisano, appointed ambassador to Henry VII., to take with him at the Signory's risk, silver to the amount of 400 ducats, the valuation to be made as usual by the officials of the new Accountant's Office.

Ayes, 161. Noes, 9. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian, 3 lines.*]

June 12. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**741.** COMMISSION from the DOGE and SENATE for ANDREA TREVISANO, Ambassador to HENRY VII.

On presenting his credentials to remind the King of the Republic's ancient observance towards the English crown, and to make offers of service becoming the love which the Signory bore his Majesty personally, congratulating him on his own wellbeing, and that of the Queen and his children, and on his very great successes.

* Not necessarily French, but from Western Europe.

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Secondly, to tell the King that the Republic deemed it fitting on his joining the League to send an embassy to express its joy at this event, and that all might be aware of the union between the State and his Majesty. That he is to reside with his Majesty, and negotiate such matters as may occur from day to day for the benefit and advantage of the League and the Christian commonwealth, endeavouring above all to keep the King well disposed towards Venice.

He is then to state what happened in Lombardy after the departure of Charles VIII.; to announce the coming of the Cardinal S. Piero ad Vincula (Giulio della Rovere) and others in that King's name, to invade the territory of the Duke of Milan; and the sufficient provision made by the Republic and the Duke to repulse them. He is to mention the truces between France and Spain, to which Venice and the Sovereigns of Naples as confederates became parties; to state that the truces have been violated by the French partizans in Saluzzo and in the valleys of Savona, and that they have captured Genoese barks and a ship belonging to the King of Naples; to narrate what has been done to repair these losses, both by arming at Genoa, and by writing to Spain; and to add such other particulars as he may learn from the Milanese ambassador, whom he is to join on the way.

They are to go together, both to the first audience and to all others, whenever matters concerning the League are to be discussed. The Milanese ambassador having been ordered by the Duke to negotiate conjointly with Trevisan and to show him his commission, Trevisan is to reciprocate this mark of confidence, and to act in concert with the other ambassadors of the League then in England.

He is to do his utmost to persuade Henry VII. to show himself favourable to the confederation, both during the truces and afterwards, most especially should a general peace not ensue.

After returning thanks to Henry VII. for his good and gracious treatment of Venetian merchants and subjects, whom Trevisan is to favour in all fair matters, and most especially in the observance of their privileges and immunities, he is to present himself with the letters of credence to the Queen, to Cardinal Morton, to Arthur, Prince of Wales, and to the Lord Treasurer and the Lord Chancellor, the two last-mentioned (the Signory understands) having great power with the King; and with all and each of these personages he is to make great demonstrations of love on behalf of the Republic, so that whatever may occur the Republic may find favour with them.

Should the ambassador on the journey fall in with the Duke of Burgundy and his consort (Joanna of Castile), he is to present himself to them with letters of credence, and to congratulate them on their marriage, in terms expressive of the love borne them by the State, and of its reverence for their parents.

The ambassador is then desired to visit such other persons of note in England as he may think fit, addressing them in language becoming their station. To be diligent and careful in giving the Republic news of those parts, so that it may be acquainted with everything. In conclusion the Senate orders a copy of the com-

1497. mission to be sent to the Venetian ambassador at Milan, for communication to the Duke, who has done the like by the Signory with regard to the commission of his own ambassador.

Ayes, 156. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin*, 55 *lines*.]

June 27. Sanuto Diaries, v. i. pp. 477, 488. **742.** LETTERS from LONDON, dated 26th May, state that the ship of Hieronimo Tiepolo and company, of 2,000 butts,* Polo Foscari master, on its voyage to England with wine had been attacked off Lisbon by a large Norman ship said to be manned by 100 Frenchmen; and that Polo Foscari, having embarked 100 men at Lisbon and 22 gunners, and being well supplied with cannon, defended himself so well that the enemy withdrew.

By way of Genoa, on the 26th June, it was heard that this same ship, Polo Foscari master, of 3,000 (*sic*) butts,† fell in with the French bark of 3,500 butts, off the "Restello" at Lisbon, and they commenced cannonading each other. The "Foscara" received no harm, but the Frenchman was riddled with cannon shot, and lost many men, his mast being severely splintered; so they abandoned three "Fustes," (which the Foscari ship took,) and sheered off.

[*Italian*.]

July 14–15. Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 490. **743.** LETTERS from ANDREA TREVISAN, Ambassador on his way to the King of England, dated Spires, 25 June, where he had audience of the King of the Romans.

On the 15th July letters were received in Venice from Antwerp by the Pesari "of London," stating that, by letters from London of the 13th June, it was learnt that some 20,000 men had taken up arms in the North under certain chiefs, and were in the field 20 miles from London; that they had made a demand for the surrender to them of five individuals, including the Cardinal Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Chancellor, Master Bray, Master Lovel, and the Privy Seal, no mention being made of the fifth, who was, however, supposed to be King Henry: so that the island was in commotion, both owing to these insurrections of the people who were desirous of a change, and because the King of Scotland, who favoured the Duke of York, was also molesting the kingdom.

This intelligence is commented on by Sanuto, thus:

"And I have heard that King Henry on perceiving these assemblies, determined to oppose them, and ordered one of his captains to come to London against these men from the North, and was answered by him, that he was of opinion that when they demanded those four they made a just demand, and that he did not think fit to come. These disturbances arose because the King laid a tax of tenths on the priests, contrary to their custom. Then he wanted to attack the King of Scotland for the overthrow of the Duke of York, and under pretence of this he amassed much money, and the people complained of paying; and it was said the King had placed

* In March 1618 the Venetian ambassador Piero Contarini, then resident in London, was charged to charter English vessels for the State; and in a despatch detailing his negotiations he wrote:—"*Il tonello s'intende esser due botti di Candia.*"

† By an entry in the registers of the Senate, date 21 May, 1498, it will be seen that the burden of this vessel was 2,500 butts.

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all his property in a tower nearest the coast, that he might escape if necessary.

"The result will be heard from day to day, but it must be known that by way of Savoy likewise, by letters from our ambassador Marco Zorzi, it has been heard recently how that Duke had received advices from France, to the effect that those affairs of England were in disorder, and that a battle had been fought and many persons killed, and King Henry remained victor.

"Our ambassador Andrea Trivisan was on the road: nothing had been heard of his arrival, and it was believed that owing to these disturbances on the island he would not cross, but remain at Bruges in the territories of the Archduke Philip of Burgundy. Quid erit scribis" (*sic*).

[*Italian.*]

July 18. **744.** HENRY VII. to POPE ALEXANDER VI.

Venetian Archives, Pacta Portfolios.

Lately received a brief from him, dated 5th June, requesting his aid for the publication of the indult and indulgences lately granted to those who had the cure of souls in England, conceding them the faculty of granting absolution. Assures the Pope that he is ready to gratify his Holiness to the utmost.

Is under the necessity of heavily taxing his faithful subjects, both by reason of his very just war against the Scots (who, immediately on hearing that he had joined the League formed by his Holiness and the other confederate sovereigns, invaded his kingdom), and also for the subjugation of certain rebels. As, therefore, his subjects are now straitened, and the King himself is about to take the field against the Scots, he does not see how at present he can comply with the Pope's wish; but if the war be speedily ended, as he hopes, and himself allowed to enjoy tranquil and quiet peace, he will very willingly take care that towards the commencement of next Lent his Holiness shall have his wish gratified. Has written more fully to this effect to the collector [of Peter's Pence], Monsignor Adrian, who made full official announcement to him on the subject by command of the Pope, who can never ask anything which the King will not grant with his whole heart, mind, and soul.

From the castle of Shene, 18 July 1497.

[*Original, on parchment, Latin, 13 lines.*]

July 18. **745.** CARDINAL JOHN MORTON, ARCHBISHOP of CANTERBURY, to POPE ALEXANDER VI.

Venetian Archives, Pacta Portfolios.

Lately received the Pope's letters of the 5th June, ordering him to urge the King in favour of the admission and publication in England of a certain indult granted by the Pope for the [spiritual] welfare of the inhabitants of the kingdom, and somewhat as a subsidy for the apostolic see.

In this matter of the indult interceded as earnestly as he could with the King, whose sincerity and devotion towards the Pope are not to be exceeded by any prince soever, and found him really very anxious to ascertain by what arrangement he could most advantageously gratify the Pope's wish; but having been compelled to impose heavy taxes for the war in Scotland, and

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against certain rebels, the Cardinal is of opinion that the publication of the indult at the present moment would not be so profitable for the holy see as if it were carried into effect at the commencement of next Lent, at which season not only will the King's subjects have greater abundance of money, but likewise (as is the wont of mankind) be more prone to acts of devotion.

Then, and always, will exert himself to the utmost to satisfy his Holiness, though he thinks that he can more profitably and advantageously serve the Pope if the execution of this indult be committed to some other person rather than to him; to which person, however, he will take care to give all assistance and favour for its performance.

With regard to English news, has notified such in full to Monsignor Adriano, from whom his Holiness will vouchsafe to hear them.

From Lambeth, 18 July 1497.

*Signed:* "Jo. Carlis Cantuar."

[*Original, enclosed in the foregoing from the King; on paper, Latin, 22 lines.*]

July 31. **746.** NEWS from ENGLAND.

Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 499.

Recent arrival of letters from England, announcing that King Henry having vanquished his rebels, there remained in the field the King of Scotland and the Duke of York, against whom King Henry had sent one of his captains, called my Lord Steward,* with a large force.

Further news expected by letters from the ambassador Trivisan, who is supposed by this time to have arrived in England.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 13. **747.** GIOVANNI DE BEBULCO to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

Yestereven received a letter from Antwerp dated 29th July, containing a paragraph, thus:—

"There are no other news; the King of England was to depart yesterday towards Scotland with a great power, and it is understood that the King of Scotland and the Duke of York are strong, and some say that they have already entered the island of England, but do not know for certain, though some catastrophe will occur in the course of a month. God aid right."

Dated "From home" (Ex domo), 13 August 1497.

[*Copy. Italian.*]

Aug. 21. **748.** NEWS from the AMBASSADOR to ENGLAND.

Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 514.

Receipt of letters dated Bruges the 1st and 5th instant from Andrea Trevisan, ambassador on his way to England, containing a narrative of his journey through Germany, of the war between the Dukes of Juliers and Guelders, from the former of whom it was necessary to obtain a safeconduct and also an escort, by means of which he arrived in safety at Antwerp on the 17th July; much honour was paid him,

* Lord Brooke, Steward of the Housenold (see Lingard, vol. iv. p. 154.)

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especially by some very wealthy Pisan merchants resident there for many years. The Archduke Philip was in Holland. On quitting Antwerp he proceeded to Bruges, where he arrived on the 22nd July, being accompanied by the Milanese ambassador, by name Domo Raimondo de Soncino.

Having to go from Bruges to Calais for his passage across to England, there was some danger, owing to certain Frenchmen being on the road, who plundered; so he wrote to London to Piero Contarini and to the consul Almorò Pisani, for escort to be sent him. They wrote back that the King was 30 miles distant, in the field, against the King of Scotland and the Duke of York, and very anxious for the coming of these two ambassadors, most especially the Venetian. Trevisan had been already twelve days at Bruges, and by the letter of the 5th it seemed that the escort had arrived, and on that day he was getting on horseback for Calais, and would subsequently cross over to the island.

English news were, that the King had married his eldest son, the Prince of Wales, to a daughter of the King of Spain.

Also, that nothing was heard of the ship "Tiepola," Polo Foscari master, nor had it arrived in England down to the last day of July, and since the storm in the Channel in June nothing further was known, but it was supposed to have made for Biscay.

Also, that the captain of Calais had sent troops to accompany them, and that they were proceeding on their journey.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 24. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**749.** DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR in ROME.

The ambassador had written that the Spanish ambassador by command of his King had proposed to the Pope to promulgate censures against the King of France, should he refuse peace and have recourse to war, and that his Holiness should send a nuncio to the King of England, to both of which proposals the Pope had taken time to reply.

The Spanish ambassador resident with the Signory has nevertheless declared that the Pope was excellently disposed towards both measures; and as the Signory consider one and the other most important and necessary, desire their ambassador to advocate them as much as possible, together with the other ambassadors, so that they may be duly realized, and to give notice of this order and mandate to the Spanish ambassador in Rome, and to the other ambassadors of the confederates.

[*Latin,* 11 *lines.*]

Aug. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**750.** NEWS received this morning from ENGLAND by letters dated the 24th of August.*

And first of all that, by God's grace, the King and the whole court were in good condition, and on the 17th August were at a

* In the original there is no address to this document, but from Sanuto's diaries the notices it contains were evidently written to the Duke of Milan, in August 1497, by his envoy, Raimondo de Soncino, accredited to Henry VII. The name SONCINO is given by Sanuto in his diaries, date 21 August 1497. The letters of this envoy, in the Sforza Archives, merely bear the name "*Raimundus.*"

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place called Woodstock, 50 miles from London, where it was said that they would reside until Michaelmas, more or less according to circumstances. That in that place on the 14th July there had been firmly concluded and published the marriage of the daughter of the King of Spain to the eldest son of the King of England—that she was to come over next spring. That the King of Scotland with his whole army, accompanied by the individual who styles himself Duke of York, had been besieging a place in England on the sea shore (Norham), and King Henry had sent his forces, in number 40,000 men, by sea and land to give battle; so they fought, and many fell on both sides, the King of Scotland being put to flight, abandoning all his artillery; but as the matter is very recent, the writer was unable to learn the number of the killed. The English were pursuing the Scotch and following up the victory. The truth would soon be heard, and he would then write to his Excellency.

Also, that Monsignor de Deber (*sic*) [Lord Audley?] and two other captains (Flammoc and Joseph?) who lately rebelled against the King, had been beheaded and quartered in the city of London on the 28th June, many others being put to death; so that his dominion may be considered much strengthened and perpetual.

"Also, some months ago his Majesty sent out a Venetian, who is a very good mariner,* and has good skill in discovering new islands, and he has returned safe, and has found two very large and fertile new islands; having likewise discovered the seven cities, 400 leagues from England, on the western passage. This next spring his Majesty means to send him with fifteen or twenty ships.

"Also, the kingdom of England has never for many years been so obedient to its Sovereign as it is at present to his Majesty the King."

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 8. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**751.** The Milanese Envoy RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO] to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

In many things I know this sovereign (Henry VII.) to be admirably well informed, but above all because he is most thoroughly acquainted with the affairs of Italy, and receives especial information of every event. He is no less conversant with your own personal attributes and those of your duchy than the King of France; and when the King of France went into Italy,† the King of England sent with him a herald of his called "Richmond," a sage man who saw everything, until his return. Then the merchants, most especially the Florentines, never cease giving the King of England advices.

Besides this, his Majesty has notable men in Rome, such as Master Giovanni Zilio (de Giglis), a Lucchese, and Master Adrian (Castellesi), clerk of the Treasury, who have been benefitted and enriched by him, so that we have told him nothing new; and the courtiers likewise have a great knowledge of our affairs, in such wise that I fancy myself at Rome: so I am of opinion, that should it be chosen to

* John Cabot.

† Charles VIII. arrived at Asti on the 9th September 1494, and returned to France in the autumn of 1495.

As to Richmond herald A.D. 1489, see Gairdner's Memorials of Henry VII., and Bergenroth's Calendar, p. 21. The name of this herald was Roger Machado.

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give any intelligence, it would be well to impart it either more in detail than the others do, or to be beforehand with them. To this effect the Genoa letter bag will be of good use, but yet more such Florentine merchants as are in your confidence, as their correspondence passes through France without impediment and is but little searched.

The letter of congratulation, dated 17th July, on the victory gained by the King, was to the purpose, though rather late. The victories were two—the first against the Cornishmen, who, some ten thousand in number, took up arms under a blacksmith, saying they would not pay the subsidy—the other against the King of Scotland, who raised his camp "not very gloriously," to express myself no less modestly than this most sage King himself did. Another matter also, which his Majesty did not tell me, is that the youth, the reputed son of the late King Edward, has fled incognito, and his wife is said to be a prisoner; so I consider that this youth called Perkin has vanished into smoke. The King of England's dynasty is likewise established through a successor, whom may it please God to preserve, for his virtue deserves it—I allude to the Prince (Arthur); and your Excellency may surely congratulate the Sovereigns of Spain on so distinguised a son-in-law; and the succession may the more be relied on, should the matrimonial alliance, which I am told is in negotiation, between Spain and Scotland take place, and a Spanish ambassador is now with the King of Scotland. But even should that marriage not be solemnized, this kingdom is perfectly stable, by reason, first, of the King's wisdom, whereof every one stands in awe; and, secondly, on account of the King's wealth, for I am informed that he has upwards of six millions of gold,* and it is said that he puts by annually five hundred thousand ducats, which is of easy accomplishment, for his revenue is great and real, not a written schedule (*non in scriptis*), nor does he spend anything. He garrisons two or three fortresses, contrary to the custom of his predecessors, who garrisoned no place. He has neither ordnance nor munitions of war, and his body guard is supposed not to amount to one hundred men, although he is now living in a forest district which is unfortified. He well knows how to temporise, as demonstrated by him before my arrival in this kingdom, when the French ambassadors wanted to go to Scotland under pretence of mediating for the peace, but he entertained them magnificently, made them presents, and sent them home without seeing Scotland; and now he sends one of his own gentlemen in waiting to France. The Pope is entitled to much praise, for he loves the King cordially, and strengthens his power by ecclesiastical censures, so that at all times rebels are excommunicated. The efficacy of these censures is now felt by the Cornishmen, for all who eat grain garnered since the rebellion, or drink beer brewed with this year's crops, die as if

* In the original, "ha più de sei milioni d'oro."

From an Act of Parliament concerning the Venetian duties on malmseys in 1491, it appears that the Venetian ducat of gold—at that period silver ducats were not in use—was worth 4*s.* 6*d.* By the bills drawn in Venice on London, and protested there for nonpayment, it is seen that from 1453 to 1512 the exchange varied from 43¾*d.* to 56½*d.*

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they had taken poison, and hence it is publicly reported that the King is under the protection of God eternal.

The Cæsarean ambassador and the papal nuncio have not arrived. The Spanish ambassador, in my opinion a very able man, is here. He gives me very good greeting, possibly from the extravagant compliments paid by me to his sovereigns at our first interview. The Neapolitan ambassador is about to depart, which I much regret, as he would have enlightened me vastly, and has done so already to his utmost.

London, 8 Sept. 1497.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Original, Italian.*]

Oct. 11. Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 573.

**752.** LORENZO PASQUALIGO to his Brothers ALVISE and FRANCESCO.

The Venetian, our countryman, who went with a ship from Bristol in quest of new islands, is returned, and says that 700 leagues hence he discovered land, the territory of the Grand Cham (*Gram Cam*). He coasted for 300 leagues and landed; saw no human beings, but he has brought hither to the King certain snares which had been set to catch game, and a needle for making nets; he also found some felled trees, wherefore he supposed there were inhabitants, and returned to his ship in alarm.

He was three months on the voyage, and on his return he saw two islands to starboard, but would not land, time being precious, as he was short of provisions. He says that the tides are slack and do not flow as they do here. The King of England is much pleased with this intelligence.

The King has promised that in the spring our countryman shall have ten ships, armed to his order, and at his request has conceded him all the prisoners, except such as are confined for high treason, to man his fleet. The King has also given him money wherewith to amuse himself till then, and he is now at Bristol with his wife, who is also Venetian, and with his sons; his name is Zuan Cabot, and he is styled the great admiral. Vast honour is paid him; he dresses in silk, and these English run after him like mad people, so that he can enlist as many of them as he pleases, and a number of our own rogues besides.

The discoverer of these places planted on his new-found land a large cross, with one flag of England and another of S. Mark, by reason of his being a Venetian, so that our banner has floated very far afield.

London, 23 August 1497.

[*Italian. Entered in the Diaries on* 11 *September* 1497. *Translated and printed for the Philobiblon Society.*]

Sept. 23. Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 559.

**753.** NEWS from LONDON.

Receipt on the 22d September of letters dated London, the 8th and 14th August, containing news that the Venetian ship of 3,000 butts, Polo Foscari master, which went westward with wines, the partners being Hironimo Tiepolo, Andrea Loredan, Andrea

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Erizo, and others, had, it was apprehended, perished in the Bay of Biscay; but by a more recent letter, it was reported to have arrived at Corunna. This distressed many, most especially the partners, and Hironimo Tiepolo of London who had merchandise on board to the amount of 20,000 ducats, and was not insured.

In the evening letters arrived from London from the ambassador Andrea Trevisan, announcing his having crossed from Calais to Dover, and that he was to enter London on the morrow. Also, that the King was in the field with his army, its captain being one called my Lord Steward. The Queen, by name Elizabeth, daughter of the late King Edward, was in London. Was of opinion those wars would soon come to an end, by agreement rather than by battle. Will give notice of everything by his next. Was accompanied by the ambassador of the Duke of Milan.

[*Italian. Entered* 23 *September* 1497.]

Oct. 11. **754.** The AMBASSADOR ANDREA TREVISAN.

Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 571.

On the 24th of August wrote from Stimburg (*sic*), afterwards crossed over to the island, and at Dover found the Prior of Canterbury and Master Corino (*sic*; Curzon?), gentlemen sent by the King to do him honour. Twenty miles from London was met by the Dean of Windsor and Master Russell, knight, men of great repute, with many other knights and gentlemen, and who delivered a message in the King's name making offers, &c.; and riding on, was joined by other parties, so that he entered London with 200 horse on the 26th of August, and great honour was done him. The King being absent, he wrote to his Majesty, who answered that he was to come to Woodstock to have audience; so he quitted London on the 1st of September, accompanied by the Dean of Windsor and Master Russell, and on the morning of the 3rd arrived at the royal palace at Woodstock.

The King was in the country, at a distance of two (*sic*) miles, hearing mass, and sent the Bishop of London and the Duke of Suffolk, two of the chief personages of his court, to meet the ambassador, who, in a gown of crimson damask, presented himself there to his Majesty. The King received him in a small hall, hung with very handsome tapestry, leaning against a tall gilt chair, covered with cloth of gold. His Majesty wore a violet-coloured gown, lined with cloth of gold, and a collar of many jewels, and on his cap was a large diamond and a most beautiful pearl. The ambassador having presented the ducal letter made a Latin speech, on the conclusion of which the King drew aside, and, having discussed the reply, caused him to be answered by the Chancellor-Cardinal (Morton), to the effect that he was glad to see him, &c.

Beside the King and the Prince, his eldest son, by name Arthur, 12 years old, were the Duke of Bucks ("Ducha de Suich"),* and other lords and prelates were present; and throughout the ambassador's speech the King remained standing. In the reply

* For the designation "of Suthwyck" in the Stafford family, see Burke, p. 493.

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the Cardinal evinced great love towards the Signory, and on its conclusion the ambassador was taken into a hall where dinner had been prepared, and there he dined with four lords; and after dinner the King gave him private audience, which lasted two hours. The King is gracious, grave, and a very worthy person.

He finally visited the Queen, whom he found at the end of a hall, dressed in cloth of gold; on one side of her was the King's mother, on the other her son the Prince. The Queen is a handsome woman. Having presented his credentials and said a few words in Italian, the Queen answered him through the Bishop of London.

He then also visited the Cardinal Lord Chancellor, presenting the letter of credence, and, after the exchange of suitable compliments, departed for London, there to await the King, who was expected in a fortnight, Woodstock being a sorry village, eight (*sic*) miles from the palace.

The news are that after the rout of the Cornish men, and the execution of the four or six ringleaders of those parts, everything became quiet. A few days ago the troops of the King of Scotland came to a place called Dumani (*sic*), belonging to the King of England, and attacked it. The inhabitants defended themselves until the arrival of the English army, which returned after driving the Scotch towards Scotland, whereas King Henry wished it to have advanced. Peace with the King of Scotland is however in course of negotiation, and also a marriage between him and a daughter of the Sovereigns of Spain, so that he will become the brother-in-law of the newly-married Prince of Wales.

London, 9 September 1497. Received 5 October.

[*Italian.*]

**755.** The Ambassador Andrea Trevisan.

By a letter from the same ambassador, dated London, 17th September, and received at Venice on the 9th October, the news of those parts purported that "Perichino" (Perkin), called the son of King Edward,—who styles himself Duke of York, had been in Scotland, and was the cause of the whole war between the Scotch and the English,—on hearing of the proposed treaty of of peace, quitted Scotland and came with two ships to Cornwall. He had again raised from six to eight thousand insurgents, and marched sixty miles inland, leaving his wife and children at a place on the coast called Penryn. The King had sent against him the Captain Chamberlain [Giles Lord Daubeney] (the same who gained the victory over the Cornish men), and also the Earl of Kent [George Grey], with some 12,000 men in all. He has likewise ordered many captains and lords to put themselves in readiness; should need be, he will march in person. The ambassador is of opinion that events will turn out well for the King, who has also sent the fleet towards Cornwall to prevent the escape of Perkin by sea.

"Mem. [by Sanuto].—How the courier said, by word of mouth, that the ambassador had been to a place on the island where there were the entire ten decads of Livy, and also some books on astrology, unknown to the Italians, and that he meant at any rate

1497.

to obtain them. The ambassador from the Duke of Milan was with ours, and had audience at the same time, but he referred himself to what ours said. He had, however, a lodging of his own, but few horses."

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 23.
Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 575.

**756.** NEWS from ENGLAND.

Receipt of letters from the ambassador in England, stating that the Duke of York had 35,000 followers on that island, and that King Henry had placed the Queen, his wife, and his eldest son in the very strong castle on the coast, and had prepared there certain barks, that he may be able to remove them in case of need, and was mustering a large army to march against the Duke.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 6.
Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 579.

**757.** NEWS from ENGLAND.

Receipt of letters from the ambassador Andrea Trevisan, stating that the Duke of York, with a great force and retinue, landed in England, attacked a large town (Exeter), and burnt two of the gates, but when he was about to enter the place, Chamberlain (Giles Lord Daubeney), a famous captain of the King's, came up with a large army, so that the Duke retreated with his troops, declining a challenge to fight a pitched battle with this captain, and fled by night, with a few followers, for sanctuary into a monastery or abbey. His troops were put to flight, routed, and dispersed, and there was a report that he had been taken by the King and hanged for being in his dominions. The truth you shall learn below.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 11.
Senato Mar.

**758.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Recital of the Act passed on the 9th May, and the reported loss of the ship "Foscara."

The period of three months assigned for stay in Hampton having expired, and the "Pasqualiga" having not yet loaded, the ship "Pasqualiga" to load, as decreed on the 9th May, after fifteen days from the arrival in England of the present order; should she be already loaded before it reach London, she is no longer to have any further term.

The consul in London to hire for convoy of the "Pasqualiga" one or more ships well provided. These ships to accompany the "Pasqualiga" as far as Sicily, and their cost to be defrayed by an average on the merchandise, on the vessel's hull, on the freights, and on the tackle.

The ships hired for convoy are forbidden to load any merchandise under penalty to the shippers of confiscation of the whole.

Should no accident have befallen the "Foscara," the original decree to remain in force.

Should the master of the "Pasqualiga" be unable to raise money for payment of the convoy, the consul in London and the Council of Twelve to be at liberty to provide to that effect.

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Should the master not have engaged as many as 120 men, the Council to hire that number that the ship may come in safety.

The ship is forbidden to touch at Ivica, and is to come straight to Venice.

Ayes, 82. Noes, 56. Neutrals, 14.

[*Italian*, 40 *lines*.]

Nov. 29. Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 586.

**759.** DESPATCHES from ENGLAND.

Receipt of letters from the ambassador Andrea Trevisan, dated London, 6 November, stating that the rest of the insurgents fled into sanctuary after the retreat of "Perkin who styled himself Duke of York, and son of King Edward," and that Perkin was now come to humble himself before King Henry, saying it was not true that he was the son of King Edward, but that he had been instigated by certain people in Cornwall. The King treated him kindly, and had marched from London towards Cornwall to crush the rebels. There had lately arrived in England an ambassador from the King of France, by name Monsieur de Duras, a man of high rank, with ten horses. He went to the King, while Andrea Trevisan remained in London, but hearing of this ambassador wrote to the King saying he would join his Majesty, who desired him not to stir. The Spaniard Don Pedro de Ayala was gone as ambassador to the King of Scotland, to negotiate an agreement between him and the King of England, and a marriage between a daughter of the King of Spain and a son of the King of Scotland. If this be effected, the discord in the island will be quelled, the son of the King of Scotland becoming brother-in-law of the eldest son of this King Henry.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 31. Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 597.

**760.** DESPATCHES from ENGLAND.

Receipt of letters from the ambassador Andrea Trevisan, dated 28 November, stating that on the 22nd the King returned from the camp to London, having been against the Cornish men. He did not enter the city with any triumph, whereas on the former occasion when he returned it was his wont to come with pomp, neither did he choose any of the resident ambassadors to go out to meet him, saying that he had not gained a worthy victory, having been against such a base crew as those Cornish men.

Subsequently the [Venetian] ambassador went to the King, who gave him a gracious greeting, and chose to give audience to an ambassador from the King of Scotland, who was come to negotiate an agreement, in the presence of all the ambassadors, including the one from the King of France. The King was well arrayed with a very costly jewelled collar (*con uno pectoral*). Has also seen that Perkin, who was in a chamber of the King's palace and habitation. He is a well favoured young man, 23 years old, and his wife a very handsome woman; the King treats them well, but did not allow them to sleep together. Asks leave to return home, perceiving that his stay in England is of no importance.

[*Italian.*]

1498.
Jan. 12. **761.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

For some months past the nobleman Andrea Trevisan has been ambassador to the King of England. His parents have lately deceased, to the serious detriment and inconvenience of his affairs, and a very great suit is made to the Signory by his kinsfolk to give him leave to return. Having regard for the great misfortune which has befallen the ambassador, most especially as he remains in England at excessive cost and with small profit to the Signory,—Put to the ballot, that he be written to, to announce to the King of England the unexpected death of his parents, and the necessity for him to return home; and that he do also tell the King that for such business as it may be necessary to transact the State will employ the Venetian consul in England, and that his Majesty may do the like; after which, having taken gracious leave of his Majesty, he is to return.

Notice of this resolve to be given forthwith to the Duke of Milan.

Ayes, 84.

Proposed amendment,—That considering the statement now made to the Senate, this matter be for the present adjourned.

Ayes, 54. Noes, 3. Neutral, 2.

[*Latin*, 14 *lines*.]

Jan. 31. **762.** DESPATCHES from ENGLAND.

Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 610.

Receipt of letters from Andrea Trevisan, ambassador in England, stating that King Henry was on terms of great friendship with the Venetians, and well impressed for the maintenance of the League; in short that that legation was to be held in small account: so he strongly solicited for permission to return home. Therefore on the —— in the Senate, he was authorised to take leave of that King, and, after the visits, &c., to come back at his pleasure.

[*Italian*.]

Feb. 14. **763.** DESPATCHES from ENGLAND.

Sanuto Diaries, v. i. p. 622.

Receipt of letters from Andrea Trevisan, ambassador in England, dated London, 11 January, stating that affairs there with the King of Scotland were well nigh pacified, nor was there any longer any talk of war, through the mediation of the Spanish ambassadors. As Sanuto heard, the King of Spain wished those disputes to be adjusted. Both in Scotland and in England there was a Spanish ambassador—in Scotland Don Pedro de Ayala; in London a doctor (De Puebla).*

Also that the Duke of York remained with the King, and that an accident had occurred. King Henry and his wife Queen Elizabeth, having gone out of London to a palace at a short distance called Westminster, fire broke out in the Queen's chamber, and that palace was burnt; the loss to the King, according to his own statement, amounting to 50,000 ducats.

* See Bergenroth's Calendar, *passim*.

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Also that the permission to return home was not yet arrived, and he had heard of the death of his father and mother.

[*Italian.*]

April 11. **764.** DESPATCHES from the AMBASSADOR in ENGLAND.

Sanuto Diaries, v. i. pt. ii. p. 32.

Receipt of letters from the ambassador in England, Andrea Trevisan, dated February. On the —— of that month, at Westminster, the King had knighted him. He had also obtained certain concessions in favour of Venetian merchants. The ambassador most especially requested the repeal of the duty of four ducats on each butt of wine, which formerly was but one ducat; whereupon the King replied that, if the Signory would take off the prohibition against the loading by English ships of wines in Candia, he would reduce this duty. The ambassador rejoined, that the Signory did not make the prohibition against England, but because of the danger from corsairs who came to load.

The King then added that he would confer with his Council, and would talk with the ambassador before he left.

[*Italian.*]

April 12. **765.** DESPATCHES from the AMBASSADOR in ENGLAND.

Sanuto Diaries, v. i. pt. ii. p. 33.

Receipt of letters from the ambassador in England, Andrea Trevisan, knight, dated (*sic*) Dover. How he quitted London on the 15th March, having taken leave of the King and Queen, and had been knighted as already mentioned. The King had given him a collar worth 500 ducats, and a horse, very handsome and small, belonging to the King himself: and with regard to the wine duties, he had obtained from the King a diminution of 1,000 ducats in favour of the ship "Pandora," belonging to the Pisani firm, which was already gone to load wine in Candia.

Also how he had quitted the island, and had crossed from Dover to Calais for Flanders, where he intended to remain some days at Antwerp, and then set out on his way home.

Mem.—Heard lately, through Hironimo Donato, our ambassador at Rome, that an ambassador from the King of Spain being on his voyage by sea from England, the ship foundered, and he was drowned; his name was —— (Fernan Perez de Ayala).*

[*Italian.*]

May 18. **766.** ARRIVAL of the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR from ENGLAND.

Sanuto Diaries, v. i. pt. ii. p. 55.

Arrival on that day in Venice of Andrea Trevisan, knight, late ambassador to the King of England for 11 months and 15 days. He came with beard and in mourning for the death of his father and mother, and on the — June reported his legation in the Senate, having previously reported it in the College on the morning of his arrival.

[*Italian.*]

* The name may be read in Bergenroth's Calendar, p. 141, No. 190. It there appears that this ambassador was on his way from Spain to England, and not from England to Spain, as erroneously stated by Sanuto.

1498.
May 21.
Senato Mar.

DECREE of the SENATE, which—after reciting that by a decree dated Aug. 17, 1490, all Venetian vessels loading wines for the West receive a bounty of two ducats per butt—awards compensation to the owners of the ship "Foscara," of 2,500 butts, which perished off the coast of England, at the mouth of the Flanders channels, with a cargo of wines of Candia and other merchandise for the West.

Ayes, 107. Noes, 40. Neutrals, 4.

[*Italian*, 22 *lines.*]

June 1.

**767.** REPORT of the AMBASSADOR TREVISAN.

Sanuto Diaries. v. i. pt. ii. p. 67.

Report of England made in the Senate on that day by Andrea Trevisan, knight, whose legation had lasted nearly a year. The King of England was aware of the good disposition of the Venetians, and meant to maintain a great friendship with them. Much honour had been paid the ambassador; his legation had lasted 11 months and 15 days, and he had expended in all 4,300 ducats. He then mentioned many details, which pleased everybody.*

[*Italian.*]

July 30.

**768.** NEWS from ENGLAND.

Sanuto Diaries, v. i. pt. ii. p. 103.

Receipt by the western merchants of advices from England, that King Henry, apprehensive of some insurrection, had placed Perkin, who called himself Duke of York, under arrest, and this because the King arranged with some of Perkin's attendants that they should suggest to Perkin to escape out of his Majesty's hands; and thus did this youth do: so the King had him put in prison, where he will end his days.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 28.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**769.** JAMES IV. KING of SCOTLAND to DON PEDRO DE AYALA, Prothonotary of the Apostolic See, Ambassador from the King and Queen of Spain.

Were we not moved by the love of peace, and by the oath taken to that effect, we should wish to punish the recent intolerable outrages perpetrated by the enemy, in violation of that peace solemnly sworn to, by the sword rather than by prayers; but as we will in the first place try our utmost before violating that peace and confederacy, we appeal to you who mediated for the truce and peace, and had cognizance of the attacks made subsequently on our lieges, of our wishes and envoys sent so often on this account to our very dear brother the King of England, and how his Highness sent them back without satisfaction. Being aware of the care and exertions bestowed on our beloved attendant Lion King-at-arms, bearer of these presents, we now, as a third effort for

* Marin Sanuto does not give "the details which pleased everybody." But some of the materials from which Andrea Trevisan partly compiled his report from England, were translated for the Camden Society by Miss Charlotte Augusta Sneyd in 1847, from a MS. of the Canonici collection, now the property of the Rev. Walter Sneyd, of Denton,

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the preservation of peace and amity, send our said attendant with letters to his Highness, recommending him to your prudent guidance, appealing to you to stand by him as witness of all past proceedings, should any point be gainsaid.

From our town of Stirling, 28th day of August, [1498].

*Signed:* "James Rex."

[*Copy, Latin.*]

Sept. 12. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**770.** RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO], Milanese Ambassador in England, to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Has arrived safely in England, not without great anxiety, as the French considered him a spy, and lay in wait for him between Dunkirk and Gravelines. Had already determined not to pass until he knew the road to be safe, when he was met by Marc Antonio da Fighino, the vicar of Monsr. San Severino, who also gave him warning. Believes it would have been well nigh impossible to have passed had not a nephew of the postmen the Fulcos, who resides at Gravelines, by his prudence and authority caused provision to be made at the passes, and obtained an escort from the captain of Gravelines. whither an escort of 40 English horse was sent him, with which he arrived safe at Calais, where by advice of the captain, he hired a ship of war, and crossed on the eve of the Virgin's Nativity in September.

Has not found the King, who is gone to his devotions, and never stays in any place. By advice of the Duke's Genoese subjects sent a messenger to the court to learn where the King was, and when he should go to him. He will immediately acquaint the Duke with everything.

London, 12 September 1498.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 19. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**771.** THE SAME to the SAME.

Crossed over to England on the 7th instant. At Dover found the courier of the Genoese merchants, sent by them to accompany him to London, where he was met by all the Genoese, who took him to a house prepared for him by Agostino Spinola, who had furnished it with his own plate and tapestry. Spinola gave him a handsome dinner, made all suitable offers of service, and left him there, visiting him daily with the greatest kindness.

Was recommended by these Genoese on no account to go to the King without giving him previous notice, and therefore sent a messenger to the court. By commission from the King, Carmeliano wrote to him that if his business was important, he might come to Woodstock on the 24th instant. Was subsequently visited by Master Peter Penech (? Pinnock), who showed him a letter from the King, whereby his Majesty desired him to remain in London, as his Majesty would be there after Michaelmas.

Has endeavoured to learn the cause of this delay, and the general opinion is that it proceeds from the King's having made this progress with few attendants, and that he does not choose to be seen with

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so small a court. Raimondo is inclined, however, to credit those who tell him that it is by reason of a private messenger from the King of France, who crossed almost at the same time as himself, and is now at the court for the purpose of negotiating a compromise for a heavy ransom contracted of yore by the Duke of Orleans, the father of the present King of France, when prisoner of the Duke of Somerset, the maternal grandfather of King Henry VII.* Is also of opinion that the peace being so recent, the King of England did not wish to give umbrage to the King of France.

The King of Scotland has sent a herald to England with a letter addressed to Don Pedro de Ayala, the copy of which he encloses. Says mischief will ensue between the two crowns, unless provision be made, and that the King of England has nothing at heart but the Scotch war.

Master Adrian of Corneto (Castellesi) has not arrived, nor, according to report, is he expected, either because such is the will of the Pope, or because he dares not come, as Raimondo understands that he has to give account of a considerable amount of crowns expended in the King's name at Rome, and with the mode of whose distribution the King is not satisfied. On the other hand a Minorite friar, Bishop of Callij (Cagli), in the service of the Cardinal of Perugia and perhaps of the Pope, has made his appearance and conferred with the King. He seems to have come to obtain possession of the bishopric of Worcester, to which Adrian has been promoted (*sic*).† Cannot ascertain what he is doing.

The courier for Scotland has not yet departed, as Raimondo purposes taking him in his company to the court, to obtain a passport signed by the Royal hand, without which he cannot cross the borders. Don Pedro de Ayala (whose return to Scotland never takes place) has written for this passport, and on its receipt the courier will proceed on his way.

London, 19 September 1498.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 19. **772.** The SAME to the SAME.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

By his letter of the 12th informed the Duke of his arrival in England, and of the danger from the French which he had escaped, and although now in a safe place, is more afraid of them than when at Dunkirk, the peril having been much greater than he imagined. Has received a letter from the Duke's most faithful servant, Giovanni Gabriel Bonconti, the Bolognese, dated Brussels,

* The Duke of Orleans was captured at Agincourt in 1415, and did not recover his liberty until 1440, when the ransom demanded was 300,000 crowns. (See Pere Daniel, pp. 211-400). He seems to have been captured by Thomas Beaufort, Duke of Exeter, who died A.D. 1426, December 27, and to have stipulated his ransom with Edmund Beaufort, 1st Duke of Somerset, in 1440.

Raimond's assertion is corroborated in Mr. Brewer's Calendar, No. 5280 :—

"Obligation entered into with Margaret Duchess of Somerset by Charles Duke of Orleans, 7 March 1444."

† The see of Worcester was conferred in 1498 on Sylvester de Giglis, nephew of Giovanni de Giglis, his predecessor in that see. (See Ellis's Original Letters, series 1, vol. 1, p. 113).

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telling him that the French who lay in wait for him, were charged to rack him, and after eliciting all his secrets to hang him. Should this be true, has no doubt but that on his return they will endeavour to capture him, wherefore the Duke's goodness must aid him. *Is* of opinion that the best course will be the following: to thank the Archduke (Philip) for the good greeting he gave him (the ambassador) at Brussels, for the safeconduct, and for the care taken of him by his captain of Gravelines, who conveyed him thither in safety from Dunkirk; and in short to request the Archduke to command the captain and his other officials to do the like on his return. These things will be facilitated by the Duke sending to the Archduke (Philip) the suit of armour which he is very anxious to have. The Archduke's ambassador, the Bishop of Cambrai, is in London. The Bishop wishes for the Duke's assistance, that he may obtain the red hat at the next promotion. Raimondo is of opinion that the Bishop will cause the King of the Romans to write on this subject to the Duke, to whom the Bishop addresses an enclosure in the present despatch: has promised to execute the commission well. As this Bishop is the brother of Mons. de Bergies, who is powerful at the court of Flanders, Raimondo beseeches the Duke to make a loving reply, that he may obtain protection on his return.

London, 19 September 1498.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 6. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**773.** The DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN AMBASSADORS in FRANCE.

Inform them that in the treaty with Lewis XII., the Republic rejects the clause stipulating the reciprocal defence of the two territories, on account of the King of the Romans, of the Archduke of Burgundy, and of the Kings of Spain and England.

Ayes, 97. Noes, 45. Neutrals, 6.

[*Latin, 89 lines.*]

Oct. 11 Sforza Archives, Milan.

**774.** JAMES IV., KING of SCOTLAND, to LUDOVIC SFORZA DUKE of MILAN.

Was much rejoiced by the letters lately delivered to him by the Duke's attendant. With regard to the Duke's thanks for having been mentioned by him as his confederate in the treaty made by him last year with the King of England, does not consider himself entitled to them, as what he did proceeded from mere honest friendship, but declares that the well nigh Godlike wisdom and innate courtesy of the Duke caused him to long for future opportunities of doing what may prove to his honour and advantage.

Is deeply impressed with the many honours which for his sake were afforded by the Duke to Robert, Archbishop of Glasgow, his councillor and ambassador, when the King's affairs were in course of negotiation with the Duke.

From Edinburgh, 11th October.

*Signed:* "James."

[*Original. Latin.*]

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Sforza Archives, Milan.

**774.** REPORT of the APOSTOLIC NUNCIO, the BISHOP of CAGLI, of the Order of Friars Minor, on his way back from England.

He quitted Paris on the 18th October 1498, and arrived in Turin on the 4th of November.

He crossed over to England, together with Monsieur Raimondo, whom the King, being 100 miles off, caused to remain in London, while he (the Bishop) was admitted to audience. Urged the reception of Raimondo, but the King answered that he did not yet well understand the intentions of the Italian powers, so mutable were they, and that he was about to return shortly to London. The King forwards all the letters received by him from Italy to the King of France, so great is his wish to maintain friendship with that sovereign.

On returning to Paris, Mons. de Rouen (George d'Amboise, Archbishop of Rouen) showed him letters from the King of England, announcing the arrival there of Raimondo. Mons. de Rouen talks much more of the Milanese expedition than the King himself.

The King of France, expecting always to be deceived by the Pope, did not believe in the coming of Valenza (Cæsar Borgia) until he heard of his landing at Marseilles. Even now he is not satisfied, as the Pope still insists on the marriage (? of Valenza) to the daughter of the King (? of Naples).

The truce has been made between France and Naples, and Mons. de Ligny is gone to conclude it.

The Venetian ambassadors are much caressed by the King (Lewis XII.), and transact all their business through Mons. de Ligny, but nevertheless it is not said as yet that they have made any special agreement with France.

The King never gives aught to any one in the world, and devotes himself to lascivious pleasures to his utmost.

The King was to quit Paris for Blois, and hoped for the settlement of the divorce from his wife that he might espouse the Duchess of Britanny, with whom it is affirmed that he consummated marriage before she quitted France.

The Florentine ambassador, the Bishop of Arezzo, not being treated respectfully at the court, departed, but having reached Lyons received letters from his Signory, and returned to Paris.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 14.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**775.** LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN, to RAIMONDO DE SONCINO, his Ambassador to Henry VII.

Although informed of his arrival in England, has not received any account of his having had audience of the King. Understands from several quarters that the King has come to terms with the King of France. If this report be true, no good can result from Raimondo's mission.

Charges him to ascertain upon what terms the Kings of England and France have agreed, and if, being agreed, the former should nevertheless entertain the mission upon which he is sent, he may remain; but should he perceive that he is fed with words and sub-

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jected to delay, he is then to take leave courteously and return home. He is to act as he may deem best, and to beware that the King of England do not take offence.

Milan, 14 November 1498.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 17. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**776.** RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO] to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

The King of England sent for him on the 11th instant, and replied according to the accompanying note. That he might understand thoroughly what he was to write, the King, with his natural condescension, repeated his words the second time. Thereupon he (Raimondo) said he would draw up a minute of the message, and present it for correction to his Majesty. This pleased the King, to whom he took the draft in Latin, on the 15th instant, when the King said, that although it contained the sense of the reply, he wished it written more fully, and that he would order a draft to be prepared in such form as seemed fitting to him.

Accordingly last evening, the 16th, Messer Pietro Carmeliano, who had drawn up the minute in his own hand, the King correcting it, delivered the document to him, requesting him, in the King's name, not to alter the words. Promised obedience, and then copied it verbatim. Encloses it, and would gladly have sent the original, but Pietro Carmeliano said the King chose that should be returned to him. Deems it requisite to make the following remarks concerning this reply:

On the King's becoming acquainted with his arrival in London his audience was delayed for about forty days. Is of opinion that this was solely to avoid giving umbrage to the King of France, from whom he understands that his Majesty extorts more money than from the late King, most especially on account of the arrears of ransom for the late Duke of Orleans. Although he had had four private audiences, the King never repeated any of the expressions uttered by him last year, as for instance, that "he was to write to the Duke that should the French King choose to invade Italy there would be remedies," and when he charged him to tell the Duke that he "held his alliance in account, as it might aid him vastly by way of Genoa," together with other similar expressions.

Is aware, partly from the King's conversation, and partly through inquiries made by him in other quarters, that the changes in Italy have altered the King's opinions vastly: he is not so much disturbed by the discord between the Venetians [and the Florentines] about the affairs of Pisa, concerning which he daily receives advices, as by this tacit yet manifest confederation between the Pope and the King of France, which he expects the Venetians will join, to the Duke's detriment; nor can he believe, even should they lose Pisa, (which he considers a difficult matter,) that they will fail to attack Milan.

Raimondo is also of opinion that the King of England esteems the present King of France more highly than he did his predecessor, either because he extorts more money from him, or because he rates

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his personal qualities more highly, or else by reason of their ancient mutual friendship, when they jointly defended the Duchess of Britanny against the French. Moreover, the peace stipulated between the Sovereigns of Spain and France makes him act with more reserve; and above all the large pensions paid in the English court with the King's knowledge have much influence.

The King of England, who, in addition to his other good qualities, is very communicative, complained and expressed surprise that the League formed with so many ties should have been thus dissolved.

Is of opinion, and the English themselves say so, that the King has need of no one, and being at peace with all, and perceiving so much disunion, believes he will not compromise his reputation. Considers it certain that the King will never stir against France until he sees it in confusion; neither will he ever cause her any suspicion unless for his own security and advantage.

There will be no change in England whilst the present King lives. It is understood that the King of Scotland, whom the English hold in very great account, is on excellent terms with the King of England, and that some negotiation is on foot for marrying him to the eldest daughter of England (Princess Margaret), who is not more than eight years old, the project with Mons. de Rohan, of Britanny, being at an end. The King of England, however, is more inclined towards the eldest son of Denmark, who is fourteen years old. Is of opinion that the King is right, not only on account of the respective ages of the parties, but because England has more to fear from Denmark than from Scotland.

The English and Flemings are angry with each other, by reason of fresh duties laid by the Flemings on English cloths, and the English public threaten war against Flanders, under which name of war, possibly by way of fifteenths (*quindena*), a certain sum of money may find its way to the King's purse; but the sovereigns are certain to come to terms, and the losers will have to bear their their loss.

London, 17 November 1498.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 6.

**777.** HENRY VII. to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

Has heard from his esquire and attendant Anthony Spinola, how much favour the Duke afforded him in his suits. Is thankful to the Duke, and should an opporunity offer for reciprocating similar favours, will always respond.

Westminster, 6th day of December 1498.

*Signed:* "Henricus."

[*Latin*, 1 *page.*]

Dec. 8.

**778.** RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO] to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

Although all French affairs are perfectly well known to his Excellency, informs him that Richmond herald, lately returned from France, affirms that all the fortresses of Britanny are in

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free possession of the Queen widow, who is not inclined towards the marriage (with Lewis XII.) should she be able to avoid it, and that already in Britanny they have determined on the despatch of three stately embassies to his Cæsarean Majesty, to the Sovereigns of Spain, and to Henry VII., which last may, it is said, be expected daily; should it come, will endeavour to learn the cause.

In like manner King Henry is sending a stately embassy to his Cæsarean Majesty, namely a knight and a doctor [of laws], with a herald, who are to depart next week, as told him by the King, who, he is certain, would not wish for peace between Germany and France.

The King of England thanks the Duke for favours shown to Antonio Spinola.

London, 8 December 1498.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 14. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**779.** RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO] to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

In reply to the Duke's recent injunctions to favor Antonio Spinola, writes that Spinola has no thought but to show himself the true servant of the Duke. Has written twice that King Henry thanked the Duke for what he had done for Antonio. Beseeches the Duke to favor Antonio and Antonio's brother Francesco, for Antonio will be most grateful for any good done him.

London, 14 December 1408.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian.*]

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Jan. 28. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**780.** RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO] to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

On the 26th ulto., by the postman of the Genoese [merchants], announced the arrival of a courier from the King of France, and of two ambassadors from Britanny.

Today the King rode on horseback, and was accompanied by Don Pedro (de Ayala), and himself. The King told them that the courier had brought a letter from the King of France, purporting that the apostolic delegates had decreed his marriage with Madame Jeanne of France null, and declared that he was free to marry any woman he pleased.

The ambassadors from Britanny say that the King of France now wishes to marry their Duchess; but that she, considering the King of England as her father, will not do anything without his counsel, and desires him to notify his opinion on this point to her.

Previously the King of England had been informed that the marriage between the King of France and the Duchess was concluded on the 17th instant, and now it is said that the King of England is compelled to recommend the Duchess to do that which was already accomplished, although by several messengers he had privily advised the reverse.

In a long conversation with the said ambassadors, the King of

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England elicited that the King of France is disposed towards peace with all: and that, even should he send forces into Italy, he will not quit France.

London, 28 January 1499.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 16. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**781.** RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO] to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Announces the arrival in London of Christoforo de' Carboneri, on the 10th instant from Holland.

With the intention of taking leave of the King, filled up a blank sheet bearing the Duke's signature, to the effect that the Duke, answering his letter of the 17th November, took all the replies of the King in good part.

On the 13th instant, in the packet of the Spinolas from Bruges, received a letter from the Duke dated the 9th January, expressing satisfaction at the reply given by the King last November, and at Raimondo's [proposed] return. Went therefore on the 15th to Greenwich, where the King was residing, who, after reading the whole letter, said he was much pleased at the Duke's satisfaction, and added that he should have liked him (Raimondo) to remain; he consented, however, to his returning, but desired him so to contrive that Agostino Spinola might have letters from the Duke, and thus give news.

Should the Duke not desire his return, ten days will amply suffice for the receipt of letters, and on the expiration of that term will set out.

There is no disturbance, nor, as he has frequently written, can any be expected during the lifetime of the present King.

London, 16 February 1499.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 20. Sanuto Diaries, v. ii. p. 317.

**782.** NEWS from ENGLAND.

Receipt of letters from Jacomo Capello, captain of the Flanders galleys, dated Hampton, 19th January, stating that in two days he should commence loading, and complete the cargoes so as to depart on the expiration of the term assigned for demurrage. Recommends that the galleys be sent to Flanders, and not to Hampton alone, because the English hold out for high prices on the marts, so that the Venetian merchants would do better by going to Flanders.

A few days previously some of the galley crews were travelling over the country selling their wares, when, at a distance of 20 miles from Hampton some highwaymen attacked three of them and killed two; so the captain sent to London to notify this to the King, who, although three months ought to have elapsed before doing justice, caused two of these thieves to be taken, and sent them to Hampton, where he had them hanged. His Majesty does everything in favour of Venetian subjects, and shows them great good will.

An ambassador from the Duke of Milan is at the court, in small repute: he remained 50 days before he could make his statement and have his first audience.

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The captain intends to take a pilot at Lisbon by reason of the dangers, as in November and December 50 ships have perished in those seas.

[*Italian.*]

March. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**783.** DON PEDRO DE AYALA, Prothonotary, to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Has received the Duke's letters and is much gratified to find that he ranks him amongst his servants. Alludes to his residence in England by command of the Sovereigns of Spain. Professes himself as much at the Duke's service as his ambassador the Signor Raimondo, to whom he communicates whatever concerns the Duke, as doubtless stated by Raimondo. Will not write more at length, as by Raimondo the Duke is made fully acquainted with the affairs of England and other countries. Assures the Duke that the King of England's love towards him increases daily, and that he is extremely pleased to hear of the great friendship between the Duke and the Sovereigns of Spain; nor does he doubt but that, should anything happen, the King of England will follow them throughout.

London, ———.

*Signed:* "Servitor P. de Ayala, Protonotarius."

[*Latin, from the file,* "1499," *March.*]

March 18. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**784.** RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO] to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

In favour of the Duke's subject, the Genoese citizen Cipriano de Fornari, who, during the past and present year, has never ceased visiting and keeping the ambassador company, and ever placing all his property at the ambassador's disposal.

London, 18 March 1499.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian.*]

March 20. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**785.** The SAME to the SAME.

The King was well satisfied with what the Duke wrote. Told him about Antonio Spinola. This Antonio has great influence with the King and is not a person to lose, as he willingly exerts himself to hear [the news], and is a staunch ducal partisan, as are all the Spinolas of the west.

English affairs do not so much require the presence of Antonio Spinola, as he lives but little in London, where Agostino Spinola, who is well affected and prudent, resides constantly, and should he fail, there is one Antonio Salvatico, a thorough ducal partisan of great intellect, who will not fail to give every opportune suggestion. There is also about the King's person a Genoese physician lately arrived, by name Zoanne Batista de Tabia, who, by reason of his talents, has good credit, and, being of the Spinola faction, does not fail to benefit the Duke's cause where he can. It would not be amiss to propitiate an individual who has been a merchant in London upwards of 30 years, by name Cipriano de' Fornari, who, although naturally of the other faction, has nevertheless always been throughout most devoted to the Duke. He is most thoroughly acquainted with English affairs, and will soon be at Milan.

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Announces the departure from England to reside at Rome of Messer Petro Penedi (*sic;* Pinnock?): the King has given him letters procuratorial for that court. Understands also that he is the bearer of letters to several personages on the road—to the Archduke, to the Cæsarean Majesty, to the Signor Constantino Cominato* (*alias* Arniti, governor of the Marquisate of Montferrat), to the Duke (of Milan), to Giovanni Bentivoglio (Lord of Bologna), and, he rather imagines, to the Venetians. It is the custom of many priests of the west, when they go to Rome to push their fortunes, to present letters as it suits them. Messer Petro told him he (Petro) intended placing himself under the protection of the Vice-chancellor (Cardinal Ascanius Sforza), and would have taken letters from him (Raimondo). Abstained from giving them, as, if possible, Messer Petro means to go through France. Messer Petro is well acquainted with English affairs; has always evinced regard for the honour of the Duke, and purposed taking some good horses as a present for him, but doubtless hopes to be paid for them. There can be no harm in showing him kindness, as he is hostile to the French, and should he hear news in Rome would always give the Duke notice.

London, 20 March 1499.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian.*]

March 20. **786.** The SAME to the SAME.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

On the 10th inst. the Duke's courier, Ambrosio de la Chiesia arrived in London with his letters of the 25th, 28th, and last of December, and 12th, 22nd, and 23rd of January. The news being all good, he demanded audience of the King, who was assuredly glad of the prosperous progress of events. Although the King had heard the whole intelligence by way of Rome, Florence, and Pisa, especially about Casentino, he was nevertheless pleased to receive details. Whether the Duke keeps him (Raimondo) in England or recalls him, it will be well to send the King frequent advices; nor is there much difficulty in this, as couriers daily come from the Cæsarean court to Bruges, whence messengers pass constantly to England. Assures the Duke that, however prosperous his affairs may be, they are always represented adversely by his Italian adversaries, and when the truth comes from Rome, it arrives as diluted as if it had passed through an alembic; though the King always believes what is notified to him by the Duke.

London, 20 March 1499.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian, 1 page.*]

March 20. **787.** The SAME to the SAME.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

Among the letters brought by the special courier, some confirmed his recall, whereas the two last of the 22d and 23d January, desired

* Who assumed the name of Comneno. See Ducange, Historia Byzantina (Paris, 1680, p. 196 and following.)

1499. him to keep the Duke well informed. Has not therefore taken leave, or been honoured by a present from the King, as is his Majesty's custom with regard to all ambassadors.

Agostino Spinola and Antonio Salvatico are of opinion that he should depart, considering his stay no longer decorous for the Duke. Not knowing how to decide, he went to the King, acquainting him with the commands received. Was received with all possible graciousness; and the King told him that as he was to depart, all intelligence concerning the Duke's affairs would be communicated to Agostino Spinola. Sought a fair cause for remaining, and said that if the King commanded him to remain, he would do so willingly, being certain thus to meet the Duke's wishes. The King replied that he would not assume such responsibility. Quitted his presence accordingly with the belief that he could no longer remain decorously in England.

Understood however, through another channel, that the King would be content he should remain a few days (on account, he believed, of the French ambassadors, who were expected); and considering that he might err more by coming away than by remaining, met the Spanish ambassador, Don Pedro de Ayala, a staunch partisan of the Duke's, and after a long conference with him, came to the conclusion that he should remain, if possible. Don Pedro, as the Duke's servant, undertook to ascertain the King's mind, and having adroitly intimated his wish to remain in England for a few days longer, should the King not be of a contrary opinion, the King appeared very satisfied, speaking very lovingly and with much honour of him (Raimondo). For the present will not depart, but wait for instructions.

London, 20 March 1499.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian.*]

March 22. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**788.** RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO] to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

The French ambassadors came to London on the 20th instant and had audience of the King yesterday. The English ambassadors at the Cæsarean court are expected back hourly.

London, 22 March 1499.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian.*]

April 1. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**789.** The SAME to the SAME.

The King of England's ambassadors to the King of the Romans have returned. They went to make civil speeches, to renew the friendship impaired by the peace of Picardy, and by the favour shown to Perkin, and to learn whether the King of the Romans was acting in earnest against the King of France. The King of England was glad he sent the ambassadors, as they bring friendly assurances from the King of the Romans.

Subsequently a secretary from the King of the Romans arrived.

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Spoke with him at great length. His King is really inclined towards friendship with England, and prepared to act, but suspects the King of England means to feed his Lords with hope, draw money from the kingdom, keep the King of France in fear, and do nothing.

The secretary remains but a short while—will endeavour to become acquainted with all his negotiations. The King of England is strongly pressed, especially by Spain; is, however, more earnest than usual; and Raimondo delays the courier to discuss the matter more at leisure, as the French ambassador is still in London. The King tells him that the French ambassador is come about trifling matters.

London, 1 April 1499.

[*Triplicate, Italian.*]

April 1.

**790.** News from London.

Sanuto Diaries, vol. ii., p. 394.

Perusal in the College of a letter dated London, 2 March, addressed to Hironimo da Cà da Pesaro, stating that an ambassador from the Duke of Milan was come to the King of England, making three requests. First, to assist the Duke against the King of France, who sought to obtain the duchy of Milan. Secondly, to give his daughter to the eldest son of the Duke. Thirdly, to give the Duke a badge, namely, the Garter. The King made answer, first, that he was at peace with the King of France, which was to last for their lives, and that he could give the Duke no assistance. Secondly, that he will not give the Duke his daughter, who is three years old, and besides not of the Duke's condition. Thirdly, that the Garter is the badge and first order of King Arthur, and that the knights of old who bore this badge swore to be the friends of friends and foes of foes, and the King of France being a member of the order, the Duke cannot enter it. Thus did he dismiss the envoy, who was to depart on the morrow, dissatisfied. Had also (query the envoy) played with Zorzi, and beaten him, abusing the Venetians.

[*Italian.*]

April 9.

**791.** Raimondo [de Soncino] to Ludovic Sforza, Duke of Milan.

Sforza Archives, Milan.

In the conversation held with the King after the arrival of the courier, when explaining what the Duke had written in cipher, the King appeared more urgent than usual about the Duke's affairs and said he did not believe the Sovereigns of Spain would allow the King of France to aggrandize himself. Went on Holy Tuesday to the King, who received him more lovingly than usual, and said that the English ambassadors who had then come from the Cæsarean Majesty brought good news, that the King of the Romans would act as a good confederate and brother.

Returned to court on Maunday Thursday, when the King was washing the poor people's feet; the King having received him very graciously, he opportunely besought the King to hold the Duke recommended, and was answered in Latin "Habeo."

On Holy Saturday the secretary of the King of the Romans

1499. arrived. Has conversed with him daily: he has come along without letters of credence, and was merely to speak with the English ambassadors, lately returned from the King of the Romans. The secretary had always been of opinion that the professions of the English ambassadors were fictitious. On the 6th instant the King sent for the secretary, who returned extremely satisfied. He received a handsome present, and on his stating that he was well pleased, Raimondo did his utmost to know why, but without effect, though when he asked the secretary whether the relations between the King of the Romans and King Henry would subsist, he was answered in the affirmative. The secretary departed on the 7th. Went on that day to the court with Don Pedro, the Spanish ambassador, and in their presence the King dismissed the French ambassador, saying that he returned no answer, but intended to send an agent of his own to France to reply. Had been already informed by the said secretary, who had it from the English ambassadors lately returned from his master, that the French ambassador made inadmissible demands. Raimondo and Don Pedro are of opinion that the French wanted some additional guarantee. King Henry chooses to keep himself in repute; and the receipt of his pension suffices him.

Is of opinion that the King of England has been deceived, as he expected an ambassador, not an obscure individual, from the King of the Romans; but the King of the Romans does not condescend so far, and the presents made by him to the English ambassadors were a poor mark of honor, nor, from the report of the secretary, was his language to them loving. On his (Raimondo's) last interview the King's mere complimentary message to the Duke confirmed this judgment, and he said he did not believe the King of France would quit his kingdom, but thought he would send troops into Italy.

In the course of many conferences the King had given him to understand that the distance between England and the Milanese did not admit of a confederacy between the powers; and then announced that he had some intention of allying himself with the King of the Romans, in which case he might perhaps change his mind as to the confederacy.

Is of opinion that all negotiation with the King of the Romans is, for the present, interrupted; that the King of England will ally himself entirely with France; and that the secretary was either deceived himself, or deceived him (Raimondo).

Should the King of England ally himself with the King of the Romans, which he (Raimondo) does not believe he will do, the Duke might place reliance on this alliance, provided he be allied with the King of the Romans, but not otherwise.

London, 9 April 1499.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian, 6 pages.*]

April 9. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**792.** RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO] to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE OF MILAN.

Has told the Duke's courier, Ambrosio de la Chiesia, to travel with speed, promising him ten ducats if he reaches Milan in 18

1499. days from Calais. If the Basle road be impeded and he go by Savoy, he is to be allowed 20 days. Requests the Duke to have him paid accordingly.

London, 9 April 1499.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian*, 9 *lines.*]

April 9. Sforza Archives, Milan. **793.** AGOSTINO SPINOLA to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Since the arrival of his ambassador, Raimondo, had only written once to the Duke, from whom he subsequently received four letters dated Milan, 12th November. Was of opinion that Raimondo would efficiently perform the business committed to him. Had given information and advice to Raimondo.

On the receipt of the Duke's letter, it appeared to him and to Cristoforo de' Carbonari that, the Duke's business in England being at an end for some years, it was advisable for Raimondo to depart. Raimondo accordingly took leave of the King, who gave him an honourable present. Though, two or three days before Raimondo's intended departure, the present courier brought several letters from the Duke, was of opinion that the protracted stay in England of Raimondo would be neither advantageous nor honourable for the Duke, as he had already taken leave of the King.

In England at present no novelty can occur, nor can any advices [be needed thence], which might not as well be transmitted to Milan by Antonio, or the Duke's other servants resident in London, and the King of England would hold the Duke's affairs in greater account, were the Duke, in lieu of keeping an ambassador resident, to send a courier occasionally.

London, 9 April 1499.

*Signed:* "Augustinus Spinula."

[*Italian*, 3 *pages.*]

April 14. Sforza Archives, Milan.. **794.** RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO] to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

About the 16th of last month an ambassador from France, called Messer Pedro Luis, by birth a Catalonian,* arrived in London. He has been a soldier on land and at sea, and now wears the garb of a churchman. Has not heard the cause of Luis's coming, though it cannot be unimportant, because the Bishop of Durham, the King's Privy Seal (*corniola secreto*), has been several times to his house; and subsequently Sir Charles Somerset, the King's near relative, the Duke of Buckingham and the Duke of Suffolk, entertained him with stately banquets; and whereas by a statute of the realm no foreign bottoms may import wine or wool from France to England without paying a noble per ton to the crown, this French ambassador has been allowed to bring both one and the other in any French or Gascon ship at his option, though the grant does not extend to vessels of Britanny; at any rate, the King conferred a

* See Bergenroth, p. 207–208. He was Archdean of Angers.

1499.

great boon on this ambassador, who was dismissed on the 7th instant.

London, 14 April 1499.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian*, ½ *page.*]

May 17. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**795.** RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO] to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

The King has sent Dr. Ruthal as his ambassador to France, and ten days ago announced his intention of sending back to his Cæsarean Majesty the ambassadors who returned last Lent, though they are not preparing for departure, nor can he learn the cause. Believes that the King will be guided by circumstances, and should the King of the Romans prosper, the ambassadors will go to Germany. When the King of England speaks of the French, he says that should the King of France not go into Italy, there is nothing to fear.

The King of England attends to nothing but amusements, and to enjoying the infinite treasure which he has already amassed, and which he constantly augments.

London, 17 May 1499.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian*, 18 *lines.*]

June 1. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**796.** The SAME to the SAME.

By his letter of 17th of May, informed the Duke that the King had determined to send two ambassadors to his Cæsarean Majesty. Eight days have not elapsed since these ambassadors crossed the sea. They were in number two: Dr. Melitone (Morton) and the Master of the Rolls (William Warham). Has investigated the cause; discovers nothing, save that Antonio Spinola tells him these ambassadors will go to Flanders, and after remaining there two months, do as shall be then enjoined them. This is what he always expected, namely, that this most circumspect King will be guided solely by circumstances. Is however informed, by very good authority, namely the Spanish ambassador, that no satisfactory result will follow, and of this he was persuaded, as never at the court do they speak according to his (Raimondo's) wishes.

No commotion in England, nor does he think any can take place during the lifetime of the present King.

London, 1 June 1499.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian*, 1 *page.*]

June 20. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**797.** LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN, to KING HENRY VII.

Letter of recommendation on behalf of Lorenzo Bonvisi, citizen of Lucca.

Milan, 20 June 1499.

[*Latin*, 15 *lines.*]

1499.
July 1.
Sanuto Diaries, v. ii. p. 612.

**798.** RECEIPT of a LETTER from ANDREA BRAGADIN, Venetian Consul in London, to the State, dated 8th June.

Announces that he has received the Signory's letters concerning the repeal of the four ducats duty per butt on wines loaded by foreign vessels in Candia, and desiring him to request the King of England in like manner to take off the duty of four crowns per butt on the wines imported into England from Candia.

Went therefore, accompanied by the merchants, to the King, and acquainted him with the whole. He replied that he neither would nor could, as at present his subjects no longer care to go and load wines; it sufficing to say, that whereas of yore they paid 8*l.* 18*s.* per butt [for sack], the present price is only 6*l.* 8*s.*; so that it is not possible to repeal this duty.

[*Italian.*]

July 13.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**799.** RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO] to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

There is nothing to write, save that, after the departure of Dr. Ruthal for France, Master (Sir Thomas) Lovel, the King's chief financier, crossed to Calais, and returned with a good sum of crowns, paid by the French King on account of his obligations to the King of England. Has been unable to ascertain the precise sum; some say 50,000 ducats, others 100,000. Antonio Spinola said he had heard 200,000. Does not believe the amount to be so large, for having had a long conversation with the King, who holds his own glory in becoming account, and having assiduously endeavoured to learn the sum, he thinks it impossible that, if it had been 200,000, the King would have failed to tell him so. The French respect the King greatly, and having lately seized in France a partizan of King Edward's, by name John Taylor, who devised Perkin's expedition to Ireland when the latter first declared himself the son of King Edward, they have surrendered the prisoner to the English ambassadors. Dr. Ruthal has already returned, but his colleague, a layman, remains behind to bring the prisoner with him. Believes that this thing will be held in great account by his Majesty; much more than 100,000 crowns, as the English may say, "Whither shall I go then from thy spirit, or whither shall I flee from thy presence."

The ambassadors who have been sent back to his Cæsarean Majesty were charged to remain two months in Flanders to act according to instructions which would be written them. Should his Cæsarean Majesty be victorious, they will go to him. During the last week two ambassadors have arrived from the King of Portugal; they are supposed to have come for the Garter.

A new set of heretics has appeared in England; they say that baptism is unnecessary for the offspring of Christians, that marriage is superfluous, and that copulation suffices, and that the sacrament of the altar is untrue. The prelates have commenced persecuting them (*a perseguitarli*), and it is hoped they will put an end to the heresy.

London, 13 July 1499.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."

[*Italian, 2 pages.*]

1499.

July 13. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**800.** RAIMONDO [DE SONCINO] to LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN.

Has come to London, and already received the King's letter for him. Is merely awaiting fair weather, and will then go to Antwerp, to avoid placing himself at the mercy of the French in Flanders, as on the former occasion.

London, 13 July 1499.

*Signed:* "Raimundus."*

[*Italian*, 14 *lines. Fragment.*]

July 31. Sanuto Diaries, v. ii. p. 706.

**801.** DON JUAN DE GUZMAN, Duke of Medina Sidonia, Count of Niebla, and Lord of the City of Gibraltar, to DOGE AGOSTINO BARBARIGO.

Requests him to send the Flanders galleys to his ports, especially to San Lucha de Barrameda, promising good treatment to all Venetian subjects.

[*Italian; translation from the Spanish.*]

Aug. 20. Sforza Archives, Milan.

**802.** LUDOVIC SFORZA, DUKE of MILAN, to HENRY VII.

Has lately been visited by the Reverend Lord Peter Penech (Pinnock ?), the King's ambassador on his way to Rome, who delivered the King's loving message. Although he acknowledged the letter immediately, repeats these few words lest his missive should have been intercepted.

Milan, 20 August 1499.†

[*Draft. Latin*, 1 *page.*]

Oct. 18. Sanuto Diaries, v. iii. p. 23.

**803.** REPORT that the Kings of Spain and England and the Duke of Burgundy were leaguing against France from fear lest King Lewis increase his power: Spain being apprehensive of the occupation of Naples by the French, and King Henry dreading the loss of Calais and other places held by him in France, from which he derived great commercial advantages.

[*Italian.*]

1500.

Feb. 29. Sanuto Diaries, v. iii. p. 101.

**804.** GIOVANNI DE' MEDICI, afterwards POPE LEO X. in England.

Memorandum by Marin Sanuto:—I note that Piero de' Medici is at Milan, and Julian at Bologna. The Cardinal is at Genoa. The wife of Piero (Alfonsina Orsini) is at Rome, and her son (Lorenzino, father of Katharine de' Medici), who is seven years old, and until now resided [at Venice] with Hieronimo Lippomano, the banker, has been sent to Rome. And the Cardinal had been in France [and] afterwards in England;‡ and his sister Madonna Lugrecia, the wife of Jacomo Salviati, resides at Florence.

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* This is the last letter in the collection from Raimondo de Soncino.

† This is the last letter to Henry VII. from Ludovic Sforza, who was captured at Novara by the French on the 9th April 1500, and died a prisoner at Loches, in France, on the 16th May 1508.

‡ Roscoe, in his life of Leo X., writes, on the authority of Ammirato, that Giovanni de' Medici had *intended* going to England, but that his companions dissuaded him, from alarm at the waves of the Channel. Sanuto, on the contrary, writes as above.

1500.

Remarks in conclusion that there was great discord in Florence, that they had declared themselves the friends of the King of France, that they meant to take the Prefect into their pay, and had remitted 50,000 ducats to Lyons, to raise 3,000 Switzers in aid of the King.

[*Italian.*]

May 8. Sanuto Diaries, v. iii. p. 225.

**805.** HENRY VII. and LEWIS XII.

Receipt of letters from the Venetian ambassador in France, to whom Lewis XII. had shown a letter received by him from Henry VII., dated London, 7 April 1500.

Of this letter the ambassador transmits an Italian translation, of the following tenor :—

Styles Lewis his very dear and wellbeloved brother and cousin. Says that in the preceding month of March his officer-at-arms, of Picardy, presented him with letters written by the King of France at Lyons on the 11th of that month, acquainting him with the affairs of Italy, and with his success in those parts over his enemies. Rejoices thereat as much as if the good fortune had befallen himself, desires Lewis to be perfectly convinced that these frequent advices give him great pleasure, knowing them to proceed from the cordial love and good will which the King of France has always borne him, and thanks him accordingly, although before the receipt of the said letters statements at variance with the same were circulated in England, to which he will never give credence, until confirmed by Lewis himself.

Has learnt by these letters that Lewis understood from Venice, Rhodes, Hungary, and other places, that Bajazet II., the enemy of the catholic faith, had fitted out the most powerful armada ever witnessed in Turkey, with the intention of invading Italy in March or April next; and that this expedition must strike the greatest terror into all Christendom, besides causing immense mischief, unless a remedy be applied : wherefore, for the honour of God, of Christendom, and of the catholic faith, Lewis urged him to make some effort for maritime defence. Hears with the deepest regret of the threatened attack, but from the distance at which he is from the scene of action is unable to give assistance as speedily as he could wish. After discussing the matter at great length with the members of his Privy Council, it seems to him and them difficult and wellnigh impossible to send a force with sufficient speed to resist the invasion, as before his ships could be fitted out with hands, guns, victuals, and other supplies, and before arriving at the spot mentioned, even were the wind fair, so long a voyage could not be accomplished until towards Michaelmas, so that the cost would have been incurred in vain. Should it however chance, which God forbid, that Bajazet II. effect the invasion, with the intention of continuing it, King Lewis and all the other sovereigns of Christendom may satisfy themselves, that King Henry knows it is his duty to do his utmost to expel the Turks, so that every one will see that to the best of his power he put his hand to the work, as every good Christian prince ought and is bound to do, for the defence of the catholic faith—bearing always in mind the distance he is from the scene of action. Requests

1500.

King Lewis to give him notice of the invasion, so that he may make the necessary preparations, in union with the French ships, should they come.

London, 7 April 1500, "before Easter."

*Signed*: "Henry, King."

[*Italian*, 60 *lines*.]

May 14. Senato Mar.

**806.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Last year the noblemen of Cà da Pesaro and the Tiepoli of London gave earnest money (*incaparata*) for a great quantity of wine in Candia, to send it westward by certain ships which have been taken by the Signory for the fleet to the loss of these noblemen, who request permission to send their said wines into the west by any foreign vessel they can.

Put to the ballot that by authority of this Council it be *pro nunc* conceded to those noblemen to convey their wines westward by any foreign ship, except a Ragusan. Provided always that, for the said wines conveyed westward by foreign ships, the bounty of two ducats per butt, as paid to our own ships, be not given.

The Pesari wines are 500 butts.

The Tiepoli wines are 600 butts.

Ayes, 144. Noes, 14. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian*, 16 *lines*.]

June 30. Venetian Archives, Library.

**807.** BERAULT STUART, LORD of OBEGNI, to NICOLÒ MICHIEL.

Congratulates him on having been elected procurator of St. Mark's. Requests Michiel to recommend him to all the patrician senators, his good colleagues. Announces his departure from Lyons to assume the government of the Milanese.*

Lyons, 30 June 1500.

[*Original, Italian*, 9 *lines, paper*.]

Aug. 29. Sanuto Diaries, v. iii. p. 505.

**808.** APPEARANCE in the Venetian College of an Englishman, named WILLIAM DEANE, and presentation by him of a letter in his favour from Henry VII. to Doge Agostino Barbarigo, dated Greenwich.

Sues for money due to him from Piero Trevisan and Santo Trono in virtue of a sentence and agreement, decreed by the "Consul for the merchants."

Order given by the College to the consuls to despatch the business.

[*Italian*.]

Sept. 14. Sanuto Diaries, v. iii. p. 573.

**809.** RECEIPT of LETTERS from Messina, written by the Venetian envoy, Francesco Floriani, on the 24th August, stating how the Great Captain (Gonsalvo of Cordova) ceased not fitting out the armada [against the Turks] by day and night, and spared

* In Burke's Extinct Peerages, this renowned military commander is styled "Bernard Stuart, Chevalier d'Aubigny." In Sanuto's Diaries (vols. i.—v. and vol. viii. p. 14) many notices of him exist, which cannot be calendared, as they do not relate to English affairs.

1500.

not money. Had mustered the troops. Has excellent infantry; no Italians, only Spaniards, English, and Germans. Has 13,000 men.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 10. Sanuto Diaries, v. iii. p. 651.

**810.** LETTER from the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR at ROME dated the 4th. Had been told by the Pope in secret that on the morrow, in consistory, he meant to appoint legates or nominees *à latere*, namely, to Germany the Cardinal of Gurk, who had experience and was warm about these Turkish affairs; to France the newly elected Cardinal of Salerno, who was afterwards to go to England, Scotland, and Spain; because the French ambassador had shown the Pope letters from the King [of France] requesting the mission of legates to the [European] powers and to himself, though previously the King had not desired this.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 6. Sanuto Diaries, v. iii. p. 147.

**811.** KATHARINE OF ARRAGON.

Domenego Pisani, Venetian ambassador in Spain, in a letter to the State dated 20th October 1500, near Barcellona, announces the expected departure for England of Katharine of Arragon in December.

[*Italian.*]

1501.

Jan. 11. Senato Mar.

**812.** FLANDERS VOYAGE.

Confirmation of the appointment of Marco Orio to the captaincy of the Flanders galleys; and permission for him to resign his command of the war-galleys.

[*Italian*, 8 *lines.*]

March 13. Senato Mar.

**813.** DECREE of the SENATE.

As known to every one, the voyage of our Western galleys has not only encouraged navigation, but has also caused Venice to be well supplied with Frankish or Western wools,—a very great resource for the poor resident here; and whenever there has been a scarcity of these wools, as at present, because for some years these galleys have not sailed, meet provision has been made, in order that poor persons who have no other employment may not perish. Put to the ballot, that all persons, whether our subjects and citizens or aliens, may, only until the end of June next, export wool from England, Flanders, and Brabant for this city, either by land or water, by any ships or vessels, native or foreign, with the obligation to pay one fourth freight to the masters of the Flanders galleys. Venetian subjects loading, as above, in foreign vessels allowed to insure as if the vessels were Venetian. Aliens bound to pay the tenths and other usual duties for the said wools like Venetian subjects; and the consuls in London and Bruges to be written to, to keep a distinct account of all the wools thus exported.

Ayes, 83.

Proposed amendment:

That the said wools be exported only by land from Calais; that they do pay one fourth freight to those who are entitled to it,

501.

and that in like manner aliens be bound to pay the lost tenths (*le x^me perse*) as fair.

Ayes, 48. Noes, 6. Neutrals, 1.

[*Italian*, 22 *lines*.]

March 22. Senato Mar.

**814.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Recital of the Act passed on the 13th March. The period to be extended until October.

Should the masters of the Flanders galleys not have their full cargos on quitting England, they are to receive three quarters freight for wools brought by other vessels, according to the estimate of what they might have loaded, had there been no competition. The masters to obtain a certificate from the consul in London, the captain of the galleys, and the merchants to be elected by the Council of Twelve. The other fourth freight to remain for the other masters as the Act directed.

The present decree to be sent express to the consuls in London and Bruges.

Ayes, 80. Noes, 55. Neutrals, 5.

[*Italian*, 21 *lines*.]

April 28. Senato Mar.

**815.** DECREE of the SENATE.

Recites the necessity for the continuation of the trading voyages performed by the galleys and the loss incurred by their recent cessation.

Put to the ballot, that, whereas the masters are bound to go to Flanders, which mart causes the Signory loss rather than profit, by reason of the exorbitant presents and from other causes, the said galleys do not go to Flanders, but merely to Hampton or Sandwich as usual; and as compensation for this abridgement of the voyage, the bonus of 1,300 ducats for each galley be remitted for the bounty (*benefitio*) of the Signory.

Ayes, 38. Noes, 10. Neutrals, 14.

[*Italian*, 24 *lines*.]

July 29. Sanuto Diaries, v. iv. p. 28, tergo.

**816.** NEWS at VENICE that the King of Spain had married one of his daughters to the son of the King of England.

[*Italian*.]

Aug. 30. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**817.** The DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR in ROME.

Express satisfaction at the contents of his letter of 24th July, detailing a conversation with the English ambassador, who announced the excellent disposition of his King towards the Christian expedition.

Desire him to confer with the English ambassador, and to commend the King's most holy project accordingly.

Ayes, 123.

Amendment to the foregoing letter:

That he do also inform the English ambassador that, to honor his Majesty as fitting, and to discuss the Christian expedition, the

1501.

State had decreed the mission to him of an ambassador, to be elected shortly.

And be it now carried that at this present an ambasssdor to the King of England be elected in this Council; with all the terms, conditions, retinue, and money for his expenses, as decreed in the case of Pietro Pasqualigo, elected ambassador to Portugal.

Ayes, 38. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 3.

[*Latin*, 12 *lines.*]

Nov. 17. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**818.** The DOGE and SENATE to the three Venetian Ambassadors in France, DOMENICO TREVISAN, HIERONIMO DONADO, and FRANCESCO CAPELLO.

Have already given them full instructions concerning the business to be transacted with Lewis XII., and the congratulations to be offered him on his conquest of the kingdom of Naples, and on the betrothal of his eldest daughter (Madame Claude, to the Archduke Charles of Burgundy). Have also transmitted an ample commission touching the Christian expedition; but that nothing may be left undone for its success, determine, that for this sole cause, Francesco Capello do go ambassador from the State to England to the King, to induce him to support the Christian commonwealth, now in a truly perilous state, unless the Christian powers apply a remedy proportioned to the preparations of its rabid and potent enemy.

Pasqualigo is therefore to make this announcement to Lewis XII., and request him in proof of the indissoluble union between France and the Republic, and also on other accounts, to send with him an ambassador of his own, that they may together induce Henry VII. to concur in the common defence. Should Lewis XII. assent, Pasqualigo is to proceed with all haste to England, and after congratulations on the marriage of Prince Arthur to the Infanta of Spain to represent the great danger with which the Christian religion is threatened by the Turk; then with the aid of the aforesaid French ambassador to persuade the King to make an attack next spring upon the common enemy, who is prepared to commence hostilities by sea and land, with unheard of power. Should Lewis XII. not be disposed to send an ambassador, or delay the mission, Pasqualigo is then to set out alone immediately.

Should he, on the road, fall in with the Archduke of Burgundy he is to visit him with credentials from the State, saying what may seem fit to his prudence about this Christian expedition.

Ayes, 135. Noes, 1. Neutrals, 1.

[*Italian*, 34 *lines.*]

1502.

Feb. 4. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**819.** The DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR in SPAIN (Domenico Pisani).

Desire him to urge Ferdinand and Isabella not to delay the subsidies for the Christian expedition. He is also to press them to hasten or repeat their entreaties for aid to the Kings of France, England, and Portugal as they had offered to do.

[*Italian*, 59 *lines.*]

1502.
Feb. 18. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**820.** The DOGE and SENATE to FRANCESCO CAPELLO, Venetian Ambassador in England.

Have received a number of his letters, dated from the 1st to the 20th of January, wherein they have remarked certain particulars, so contrary to their expectation and to the requirements of the times and the circumstances that they cannot sufficiently express their displeasure and trouble. Perceive that he had opposed the sending of money to the Pope by the King of England, and had also used unsuitable language at variance with the respect entertained by the State for his Holiness. Have also seen that he spoke of his Cæsarean Majesty with less reserve and moderation than became him. His commission contained no orders of this sort. Are surprised and perplexed, by so much the more as by his last letter they learn the arrangements made by him for a conference with the papal Legate in England for the purpose of discussing these matters. Are therefore very apprehensive lest his next letters also contain matters very annoying to them.

Therefore charge him instantly to enter the presence of the King, to whom he is to say that the State having heard, by their ambassador's letters, of his Majesty's good disposition towards the Christian commonwealth, they applaud him for so holy and necessary a resolution. He is then to expatiate in grave and suitable language on the preparations of the common enemy of the Christian faith, as set forth by the enclosed summary, in accordance with the advices already sent. He is then to exhort the King to provide against so great a catastrophe; urging him, should he not have already done so, to send the money promised to the Pope, there being no doubt but that his Holiness on his part will keep his promise of arming, and aiding the Lord's bark and flock confided to him. When discussing this matter the ambassador is to speak of the Pope respectfully and honourably; and in like manner to express himself suitably and with modesty about the King of the Romans and all other sovereigns, according to the custom of the State.

Ayes, 155. Noes, 4. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian*, 60 *lines*.]

Feb. 23. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**821.** The SAME to the SAME.

Wrote to him by the post on the day before yesterday, not without much vexation, as he will have perceived.

Have on this day received four of his letters, written on the 25th, 26th, 27th, and last day of January, narrating his subsequent proceedings. The account has not only much mitigated the previous vexation, but even abundantly satisfied the wishes of the State with regard to his negotiations. Praise him greatly for having comported himself lovingly with the apostolic Legate. Desire him to continue this system, and likewise to make all such demonstrations as may prove the State's observance towards the Pope and the apostolic see. He is to persevere in urging the King to succour the Christian faith, both by sending money and by every other aid, and to use all despatch.

1502.

Moreover, having heard of the conclusion of the marriage of the King's daughter (Princess Margaret) to the King of Scotland,* he is to offer congratulations. He is also to return thanks for the King's loving expressions towards the Signory.

Are persuaded that before the receipt of the present the ambassadors from the King of Hungary will have arrived in England, and that he will have assisted them to obtain from King Henry the aid demanded by them for Christendom. The more the State ponder this Christian expedition, the more are they convinced of the necessity for aiding the King of Hungary, whose position causes him to be much feared by the Turks.

On this account again charge Capello to urge King Henry not to fail in succouring King Ladislaus, and this reiterated order he is to communicate to the Hungarian ambassadors, that they may know how well affected the Republic is towards his Hungarian Majesty; and on this occasion to remind King Henry that the State has already given the King of Hungary 100,000 ducats, for the aforesaid purpose, and continue paying him a like sum annually, notwithstanding the very great and excessive cost incurred by them and yet current for this Christian expedition.

Ayes, 156, Noes, 0. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian, 39 lines.*]

April 18. Sanuto Diaries, v. iv. p. 87.

**822.** NEWS from ENGLAND that King Henry was in trouble, had ordered the arrest of one of his chamber attendants, and had written to the Hungarian ambassadors on their way to him, that if they were coming for succour against the Turk they were not to proceed, saying that those who are unable to make war upon the Turk should make peace; so no assistance will be obtained.

[*Italian.*]

May 7. Sanuto Diaries. v. iv. p. 91.

**823.** RECEIPT of LETTERS from Francesco Capello, knight, ambassador in England, dated 8th April, stating that the King's eldest son, aged 16, who held the principality of Wales, was dead. He had been married to the daughter of the King of Spain, who was there on the island.

[*Italian.*]

May 30. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**824.** RECAL of the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR from ENGLAND.

Decree of the Senate, that as Francesco Capello, ambassador in England, earnestly asks leave to return on account of the urgency of his private affairs; and as his stay there is not only fruitless but expensive; and, moreover, as the King of France has in like manner recalled his ambassador from England, he do take good leave of his Majesty, and return home.

Ayes, 126. Noes, 9. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian, 7 lines.*]

* The Scotch ambassadors were in England for the purpose of concluding the marriage, but the bride did not quit England until June, 1503. See Hall, pp. 494 and 498.

1502.
June 8.
Misti Consiglio X., vol. xxix. p. 67.

**825.** STYLE of "ANGLUS" used by PHILIP VISCONTI, DUKE of MILAN.

Doge Leonardo Loredano and the Council of Ten confirm privileges in favour of Giovanni Battista Stanga, knight and LL.D., citizen of Cremona, according to grants from Francesco Sforza Visconti, Duke of Milan, dated Milan, 8 March, 1464; and from his son Galeazzo Maria Sforza Visconti, Duke of Milan, dated Pavia, 20 February 1476, respecting all manner of jurisdiction of his estate and castle of Annico. The grant from Francesco Sforza, which is set forth in full, recites an earlier grant respecting Annico, in favour of his councillor, Oldrado de Lampognano, made by "Dominum Ducem Philippum Mariam ANGLUM socerum et patrem nostrum."*

[*Latin*, 240 *lines.*]

July 20.
Correr Museum.

**826.** HENRY VII. to the Venetian Ambassador, FRANCESCO CAPELLO.

Sends to him by the bearer a passport for himself, his attendants, horses, and baggage, authorizing their embarkation at Hampton, according to the request made by him in person to the King, and again repeated by letter.

Acknowledges likewise the ambassador's announcement to the effect that the King of Hungary had written to him certifying the transmission of other letters which the King of Hungary had addressed to King Henry, urging Capello, on the arrival of the papal brief, to solicit payment of the money promised by King Henry to the King of Hungary.

With reference to this matter, King Henry answered the King of Hungary that, after the fulfilment of the terms stipulated in presence of the ambassadors of Hungary and of other powers, and when the papal brief thereupon shall have been sent to him, he will perform his engagement; until then neither in law nor equity can the promised sum be claimed.

His Majesty had also seen the petition given by the bearer of the present to the ambassador in whose letter it was enclosed, requesting the ambassador to intercede with the King for his promotion to a certain prebend. If that prebend had not been already bestowed, the ambassador's wishes should have been complied with; but when an opportunity offers, the King will bear in mind the individual in question, for the ambassador's sake.

Has also received that fine horse of his, which he (the King) believes to be a good one, and returns unbounded thanks; and understanding that the ambassador greatly appreciates hobbies, although there is a great scarcity of them in England, sends one of his own, which he hopes will turn out well.

Woodstock, 20 July 1502.

[*Latin*, 21 *lines.*]

* Filippo Maria Visconti, Duke of Milan, reigned from 1412 to 1447.

1502.
Dec. 6. **827.** ENGLISH AMBASSADOR to HUNGARY in Venice.

Sanuto Diaries, v. iv. p. 176. Noblemen sent to visit the English ambassador, who had been in Hungary and arrived at Venice on the preceding day and lodged at the "White Lion." Orders given for making him a present.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 8. **828.** AUDIENCE of the ENGLISH AMBASSADOR above mentioned.

Sanuto Diaries, v. iv. p. 179. Audience given by the College to the English ambassador, who had been in Hungary, and is on his way home. Had been honoured by the Signory heretofore. Is a doctor and priest. His interpreter was Andrea Badoer. Said a few words in a low tone, about the love subsisting between his King and the Signory, and *vice versâ*.

The Doge spoke him fair. He requested that an English doctor, now lecturing at Padua, may be allowed to appoint his own beadle; was told that the matter should be taken into consideration. He was accompanied by Venetian noblemen.

[*Italian.*]

1503.
Jan. 4. **829.** REGULATIONS ENACTED by the VENETIAN FACTORY in LONDON, and ratified by the SENATE and COLLEGE on the 4th January 1503.

Senato Mar.

In continuation of ancient custom, according to the tenor of the London factory's laws, its "Council of Twelve," lately elected, as "revisers" of this their "factory of London," Lorenzo Pasqualigo and Nicolò Giustinian, limiting the revision to the accounts of the last consul, Piero Tiepolo.

Subsequently, on inspection of the books of previous consuls, many errors of various periods were discovered. Sundry consuls incurred extravagant expenditure, failed to exact payment from the factory's debtors, and did not levy the quota from such as were liable to it.

The Council of Twelve, therefore, enact that on receiving the Signory's confirmation of the present motion, the consul do assemble the Council [of Twelve] and appoint two revisers of the books of the London factory. They, together with the consul, to revise the entire administration of the consuls during the last twelve years, and report on oath to the Council of Twelve. Should the Council admit the maladministration of these moneys, such moneys then to be placed to the debit of the respective defaulting consuls, the said revisers and consul being paid ten per cent. on what they recover from the convict consuls.

And as for some years, it has been impossible to levy [the quota] from aliens having goods on board Venetian galleys and ships, both because they are favoured by the masters of the vessels, and likewise owing to the negligence of the consuls, no master of any galley or ship, nor any person soever shall give any bill of lading for goods either in the "giava" or "statii," without specifying that they are accountable to the factory for three pence in the

1503.

pound [sterling] without further deposit; no masters, scribes, or other officials to consign goods or receive them, without a certificate from the consul of such goods as shall be either delivered in England or exported thence, on penalty of double quota for such goods as shall be consigned and received without the consul's certificate.

And as the retail dealers (*bazarioti*), who come by land, and by Venetian barks and galleys, import and export much merchandise from England, to such an amount that it would satisfy any good merchant,—nor can either their exports or imports be prevented,—the consul is to use all diligence, whether through the customs or by any other means soever, to ascertain the owners of the goods, and enter them as debtors on the factory's books, holding them accountable.

Every consul to make a list of all the debtors and send it to Venice to the proveditors of the factory, who are to enforce payment and a penalty of 15 per cent., in addition.

As a quantity of merchandise is brought by land from Venice to London, and in like manner exported thence for Venice, which—as it pays no "quota," but a trifling freight as [bounty],* by reason of an understanding with the masters of the galleys—is sold at a much cheaper rate than goods brought by Venetian galleys and ships, which have to pay full freight and quotas, far exceeding their costs:—be all persons soever, whether aliens or Venetian subjects, bringing goods by land to Venice, by whatever road, namely, English wool and tin, bound to pay the London factory five pence per pound sterling; and in like manner for every other sort of English cloths, be they of what quality they may,—with the exception of such cloths as the Germans bring to their warehouse† which are exempt from this duty,—natives as well as aliens shall pay "quota" for every sort of merchandise exported from England; the consul in London and the proveditors at Venice levying those five pence in the pound as aforesaid.

As the Venetian consuls in London are not always obeyed, besides the penalties enacted by the Senate, they are to have power to inflict such as they shall think fit, and if disobeyed to take all due steps for levying the fines thus imposed; and should they lack the means of levying them in England, the proveditors for the factory in Venice to coerce the delinquents. If those who refuse payment of these fines be noblemen, their names to be sent to the palace as debtors; if plebeians or others, their property and persons to be liable for the full payment of these penalties, whereof one-fourth to belong to the proveditors of the factory [in Venice] and three-fourths to the factory in London. Should the penalties be levied in England the entire amount to belong to the factory there.

Ayes, 15. Noes, 1. Neutrals, 3.

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* As stated repeatedly, during the voyages of the Flanders galleys, all merchandise passing between Venice and England was made to pay them freight.

† Their famous warehouse at Venice.

1503.

On the 4th January, in the College, by authority of the Senate, election as proveditors [in Venice], for the London Factory, according to the Act passed:—

Piero Bragadino.

Pangratio Giustinian.

On 15th January, in the College, Silvan Capello was elected as proveditor of the London Factory in lieu of Pangratio Giustinian, who refused.

[*Italian.* 113 *lines.*]

Jan. 31. Sanuto Diaries, v. iv. p. 235.

**830.** ENGLISH AMBASSADORS in GERMANY.

Receipt of letters from Germany, from the ambassador, Alvise Mocenigo, dated Cologne the 10th, with a little cipher.

The two English ambassadors had arrived there with 49 horses, and an escort of 200 cavalry, the roads being insecure. They are are persons of experience, and their names are Dom. Thomas Tranelo (Sir Thomas Brandon), a distinguished knight (*cavalier primario*), and Dom. Thomas (*sic*) West, the King's chaplain, an LL.D., who studied at Bologna.

So far as can be understood, the object of their mission was to prevent his Cæsarean Majesty from favouring the Earl of Suffolk, called "White Rose," who aspires to the English crown, and is at Aix-la-Chapelle, two days' journey from Cologne, and the King of England fears him much.

They were also come to negotiate an adjustment of the disputes between France and Spain.

Mocenigo visited them, and breakfasted with them in their fashion. There then came to visit them the Spanish ambassador, with whom Mocenigo supped on that evening. Narrates the conversation, and the conclusion that there will be neither peace nor truce between France and Spain.

The English ambassadors also spoke about the Sophy (Ismael I.), etc.; were surprised at the departure of the King [of the Romans] who was gone to the frontiers of the territory of the Duke of Guelders. The baggage-carts had on that day proceeded thither with an escort of 200 cavalry, so that his Majesty will have 600 men at arms, including those of the Marquis of Brandenburg, and as many more are being sent to him by the Duke of Cleves, who is the enemy of the Duke of Guelders. According to report he (Maximilian?) will do nothing. The Duke of Guelders is gone to the King of France, having lost two battles in the territory of the Duke of Cleves, who was assisted by the neighbouring barons; others say that the Duke of Guelders is dead. The plague is raging at Cologne.

[*Italian.*]

March. Sanuto Diaries, v. iv. p. 272.

**831.** PRINCIPAL CLAUSES of the LEAGUE between MAXIMILIAN, King of the Romans, and HENRY, King of England, dated Westminster, 14 August 1502: as in Rymer's Fœdera, vol. XIII., p. 22.

[*Latin.*]

1503.
March 19. Sanuto Diaries, v. iv. p. 285.

**832.** MOTION made by MARIN SANUTO and his colleagues, sages for the orders, in the Senate, for a letter to be written to the Venetian Consul in London desiring him to tell King Henry to repeal the duty of a noble per butt on the wines, the Signory having taken off the four ducats per butt levied on foreign bottoms loading in Candia; and that in case of refusal, the republic would organise her wine staple in Candia.

Noes, 5.

[*Italian.*]

March 20. Sanuto Diaries, v. iv. p. 285.

**833.** NEWS from ENGLAND.

Receipt of letters from the ambassador, Alvise Mocenigo, dated Antwerp, 19th February. News had been received that the Queen of England, after giving birth to a female child, had died, though the English ambassadors said they did not know this for certain. Writes that this Queen was the daughter of the late King Edward; a very handsome woman and of great ability (*e di gran inzegno*).

By a letter from the same, of the 23rd, the death of the Queen was confirmed; she was 35 years old, a very handsome woman, and in conduct very able (*di gran governo*); has left a son and three daughters. It is supposed that although King Henry has made the agreement with the King of the Romans, England will make a stir, and affairs there be in commotion.

[*Italian.*]

June 23. Sanuto Diaries, v. v. p. 36.

**834.** NEWS OF ENGLAND.

At this time, the wife of the King of England died. Also, in Poland, the King's brother, the Cardinal of Poland.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 5. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**835.** The DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR in HUNGARY.

Desire him, in balancing accounts between the Republic and the King, for the Turkish subsidy to deduct 15 per cent. for the sums received by his Majesty from the Kings of France and of England.

Ayes, 118. Noes, 3, Neutrals, 1.

[*Italian, 59 lines.*]

1504.
Jan. 25. Sanuto Diaries, v. v. p. 534.

**836.** COMMUNICATION to be made to HENRY VII.

Motion made by all the sages for a letter to be written to Germany acquainting the ambassador with the proceedings of the Pope, and that the State does not wish for Cesena, nor for what belongs to the Church. Similar missives despatched to the ambassadors in Spain and to the Venetian consul in England, desiring the latter duly to communicate with the King of England.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 27. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**837.** The DOGE and SENATE to NICOLO GIUSTINIAN, Venetian Consul in London.

He is aware that during the lifetime of Pope Alexander VI., the Duke of Valentinois (Cæsar Borgia) ceased not by all possible ways

1504.

and means to plot against the Signory, trying to seize their towns and fortresses. The Republic having been thus provoked by him, on the death of Pope Alexander (18th August 1503), and also as a measure of selfdefence, took Faenza by force from Valentinois, he having occupied and usurped it from the Church, together with many other cities, towns, and fortresses.

The Republic also obtained the city of Rimini from its Lord Pandolfo Malatesta, who recovered it from Valentinois; but who, not having the means either to reduce the castle, or to maintain himself in that state, ceded the said city to the Republic, in exchange for three times as much, as will appear by the enclosed note; the Signory keeping for itself that which had been tyranically held by Valentinois, and restoring to the Church the supremacy and acknowledgement of tribute. Declare that the appropriation of this territory can not be attributed to covetousness, the Republic having already ample possessions, whereas the cost of the newly acquired places far exceeds their revenue; and that what has been done was solely for the honour and advantage of holy Church, and to secure the Republic against competitors already in the field, and who sought to seize these towns, having sent troops to Faenza, putting forward one Francescheto de Manfredi, a bastard, for whom however the State of its munificence provided suitably.

Assert that this is what the Republic has done in the affairs of the Romagna; for which impartial and unimpassioned minds would award praise and commendation, and not blame, which is constantly cast on the State, at the instigation of rivals and malignants, by the Pope, at the courts of the Christian powers, amongst whom is understood to be the King of England.

Are assured that his Holiness has written to the said King a brief, accusing the Republic heavily for the aforesaid acts, and referring to Cesena, Imola, and Forli, which places have been hitherto respected out of consideration for his Holiness, although they might easily have been seized; the State occupying Rimini and Faenza, and the territories thereof, by reason of state policy, and for the advantage of the apostolic see and of his Holiness, but restoring to him his tributes, and paramount rights—the Republic constituting itself his tributary. The Pope and apostolic see can thus have the assistance of the Signory in place of Valentinois—an irreverent and most cruel tyrant, of whose fellow no record exists in any history, ancient or modern; notwithstanding which, the Pope at the suggestion of bad men, lays blame on the Republic, which has always been of such service to Christendom and holy Church, as seen by innumerable proofs and instances. Without referring to circumstances of ancient date, they would mention what had been done recently by the State for the election of a pontiff on the demise of Pope Alexander, when the Signory opposed Valentinois, who had a strong force in the apostolic palace for the purpose of coercing the sacred College of Cardinals to elect a pope after his fashion, and prevented these his plots and iniquitous designs from taking effect. The consul is charged to obtain audience of King Henry, and in detail to acquaint him with all the aforesaid justifications, in such terms as his ability and prudence may suggest. He

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is to explain the course of events to every one, as shall seem necessary, so as to make a favourable impression. The King himself, the State is convinced, will expect the Pope to be well disposed towards the Signory.

The consul to omit no assiduity. They rely much on his prudence and ability. To write back word of the execution of these commands.

[*Italian, 53 lines.*]

March 9. **838.** FLANDERS VOYAGE.

Sanuto Diaries, v. v. p. 675. Silvan Capello, in a letter to his brother Antonio, dated London, 30th January, states that on the 17th letters were received from Hironimo di Cà da Pesaro, announcing the arrival at Falmouth of all three of the galleys. The five Portuguese barks had arrived there with 380 tons of spices imported from Colocut.

[*Italian.*]

May 23. **839.** WOOL TRADE with ENGLAND.

Senato Mar. v. xvi. p. 43. Motion made and lost in the Senate.

Recites letters from the captain of the Flanders galleys and from the consul in London, announcing that some 300 bags of wool had been left on shore, which is detrimental to the merchants of Venice and to the city, as the bags cannot be brought save by the galleys now about to go to [England].

Therefore the said wools may be loaded in any ship soever, on condition that the merchants pay half freight to the masters of the galleys now on the point of making the voyage.

Ayes, 59. Noes, 76. Neutral, 0.

[*Italian, 16 lines.*]

July 8. **840.** HENRY VII. to POPE JULIUS II.

Venetian Archives, Library. The cathedral church of St. Paul's in London having recently become vacant by the translation to the metropolitan church of Canterbury of the late Bishop the Lord William ———, has been anxious to provide the vacant see with a competent pastor, and after pondering the matter, the Venerable Master William Barons, Doctor of Laws, his chaplain, councillor, and keeper of his Rolls, has seemed worthy to him of being recommended to the Pope for the vacant see.

Represents him as estimable for his learning and moderation,—grave, moreover, upright and circumspect, and of much experience in Italian affairs. Requests the Pope therefore for his (the King's) sake, to accept Master William Barons, and to be pleased to promote him to be pastor and Bishop of the above mentioned cathedral church of St. Paul's vacant as aforesaid.

From the Palace at Westminster, 8 July 1504.

[*Original, parchment, Latin, 7 lines.*]

1505. **841.** The DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN CONSUL in LONDON.

March 6. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta. He will remember that of late the King of England has frequently advised the Republic to effect a reconciliation with the Pope, concern-

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ing the affairs of the Romagna. This advice was in accordance with the wishes of the Signory, and they have endeavoured to demonstrate their respect for his Holiness. At length a total adjustment has been effected thus—

With the Pope's good grace, the Signory retains Rimini and Faenza, with their counties and territories, being content that the other places taken by the Republic from Valentinois be surrendered to his Holiness.

He is to announce this result to the King in suitable language.

Ayes, 172. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian*, 22 *lines.*]

March 30. Quirini's Original Letter Book, Letter No. 12. St. Mark's Library.

**842.** VINCENZO QUIRINI, Ambassador to PHILIP and JUANA of CASTILE, to the DOGE and SENATE.

Details his first interview with Philip King of Castile at Saarbrück. Describes him as about 28 years old, above the middle stature, of fair proportions, handsome, and of a most pleasing appearance, and most gracious both in manner and language.

Haguenau, 30 March 1505.

[*Extract, Italian*, 1⅓ *page.*]

May 16. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 34.

**843.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Arrived from Brussels yesterday evening, and this morning went to the King, who greeted him very cordially, and after they had been to mass together, presented to him his eldest son and his two daughters, all very fine children and with good dispositions (*de bona indole*), and who were being brought up in that town.

Mechlin, 16 May 1505.

[*Extract, Italian*, 2 *pages and* 3 *lines.*]

June 21. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 46.

**844.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Announces the arrival there of three ships from Portugal, freighted with oil and divers other commodities, including some 4,000 quintals of pepper, and from 50 to 60 quintals of gingers and nutmegs. Current price of pepper at Antwerp, 20 Flemish "gros" the pound, and ginger 24 "gros," provided it come from Venice, as what they get from Portugal is inferior, and does not fetch more than from 16 to 18 "gros" the pound. Down to the 14th instant, the Flanders galleys were still in England, endeavouring to obtain the release of the linens which had been seized, and were expected to sail with the first fair wind.

Antwerp, 21 June 1505.

[*Extract, Italian*, 2 *pages folio.*]

June 25. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 47.

**845.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Details a conversation with the Spanish ambassador, the Commendator De Haro, who said he would make him (Quirini) laugh, and then mentioned that the King of Castile had received notice from his ambassador in France, and likewise from a Genoese, an envoy, who was sent thither by the King of England, and who had written to a friend at Antwerp, that King Lewis, on recovering from this last

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severe illness, besides discovering a negotiation had been going on between Spain and France, had also become aware that, had he died, his wife and daughter would have been in trouble, because all the princes in France were intriguing against them; and he therefore perceived that his only remedy was to marry his daughter to the Dauphin. This he means to do, and to annul her marriage to Duke Charles, the son of the King of Castile. The King of Castile strongly suspects this result, and is very uneasy, especially lest the King of France, entertaining such a project, send succour to the Duke of Guelders. A remedy has been suggested by the councillors of the King of Castile, to the effect that as he himself has caused the King of France to infringe the alliance by maintaining so close an intimacy with the King of Spain, and by being guided by the advice of the Emperor, therefore, if he wish King Lewis to adhere to the original treaty, and to have a good understanding with him, he must renounce all other negotiations. By similar artifices they delay his voyage to Spain, and keep him hampered with the war in Guelders, which it is very strongly suspected will yield him but little honour.

Antwerp, 25 June 1505.

[*Extract, Italian, 3 pages folio.*]

July 1. **846.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 48.

Imagines that the Signory is acquainted with the disputes between the English and the Flemings about certain new duties exacted by both parties; owing to this, no merchandise is allowed to be imported into Flanders from England, nor will the English admit any Flemish produce, which is very injurious to the whole country, and especially to this town of Antwerp, whose fairs without the English do not yield one-third of the usual profit. For the adjustment of this understanding King Philip some months ago sent an embassy to the King of England, which is now returned without accomplishing its purpose; and the envoys report that, after much discussion, the King decided that the affair concerned his subjects, and that he would not interfere.

The King of Castile is therefore not well pleased; indeed, Quirini understands, through several channels, that the dissatisfaction is mutual, but most intense on the part of the King of Castile, because he is convinced that King Henry has constantly given pecuniary succour to the Duke of Guelders, and there was a moment when it was even feared he might do worse, because the Duke has in his power the Earl of Suffolk, called "White Rose," who claims the crown of England; and although he went to him under a safeconduct, Duke Charles keeps this nobleman in confinement, at the suit of the aforesaid King of England.

Antwerp, 1 July 1505.

[*Extract, Italian, 2 pages folio.*]

July 5. **847.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 49.

On the day before yesterday received letters from the camp dated the 1st instant, written by a friend of his, telling him that on that night reinforcements, to the amount of 800 men, had got into Arnem,

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where they burnt great bonfires and made other signs of rejoicing. On the following morning they all showed themselves on the ramparts, in great spirits; and it is understood that the Duke of Guelders has again received considerable pecuniary assistance from the King of England, because of the Earl of Suffolk, "White Rose," who is in his hands.

This day (5th July) has seen the commendator De Haro, with whom he often exchanges visits; was told by him, in the course of a long conversation, that he had true and certain intelligence that the King of England had concluded a marriage with the young Queen of Naples, the niece of the King of Spain; and that he had already sent a deputation to her at Valentia; the only doubtful point being whether she would accept him.

According to letters received at Antwerp from the London merchants, the Flanders galleys sailed on the 18th June, but were obliged by contrary winds to put back into the port of Huie (*sic*), and awaited a favorable breeze.

Antwerp, 5th July 1505.

[*Extract, Italian,* 1¼ *page folio.*]

July 14. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 52.

**848.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Mentions the arrival there, on the 12th, of a gentleman from Cologne, by name Hermarich (*sic*), on his way to England as envoy from the Emperor, to try and arrange the dispute between the English and the Flemings, as mentioned by him in a former letter; and also, he believes, to complain of the succour given to the Duke of Guelders.

Antwerp, 14 July 1505.

[*Extract, Italian,* 1¼ *page folio.*]

July 19. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 54.

**849.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Among other news announced by him to the State in his letter of the 14th, mentioned that the King of Castile was in close negociation for the surrender of Zutphen, one of the chief towns in Guelderland, some four leagues from Arnheim; has now heard by letters from a friend of his in the camp that the surrender was effected on Monday last, the 14th instant. Six of the principal inhabitants of Zutphen had come to swear homage and fealty to his Majesty on behalf of the whole town, and he was going thither with the whole army.

They also write that Mons. de Lichtenstein, one of the King of Castile's captains, when returning the other day from a foray, passed by chance near another good borough belonging to the Duke of Guelders, called Aten (Etten) commanded by a fortress, where the Earl of Suffolk, "White Rose," is confined. Mons. de Lichtenstein, to his surprise, was summoned by the inhabitants, who put him in possession of it, together with his whole force, amounting to 300 horse, and as many more infantry. The King subsequently sent reinforcements, and they are besieging the castle with the hope of a speedy surrender, as the garrison is weak, and it so chanced that on the day they entered the town the main guard had gone out to

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scour the country, having no suspicion of the advance of the King's army, which was at a distance, and on their return found the approaches occupied.

These two announcements had caused great rejoicings, as the possession of Zutphen ensured the blockade of the rest of Guelderland; and were no other benefit derived from the capture of Etten, they hope by obtaining "White Rose" to render the King of England anxious to settle the disputes between the English and the Flemings, and that he will do something more for the King of Castile.

The other day, the Lord Treasurer came to Antwerp to raise funds, and amongst other measures devised by him was an import-permit, which he conceded to sundry merchants, for 10,000 pieces of cloth to be brought into Antwerp from England, on payment of two "philips" (equal to four Venetian livres) for each piece of fine cloth, and only one "philip" for other qualities; whereas until now the trade had been prohibited by reason of the disputes above mentioned.

Antwerp, 19 July 1505.

[*Extract, Italian, 1¼ page.*]

July 26. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 56.

**850.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Had been informed by the Spanish ambassador that the Princess of England sent a messenger lately to the King of Castile, urging his Majesty, after obtaining Guelderland, to come to Calais, to which place she would proceed, and would also bring the King of England, to effect an agreement and compromise, and adjust all disputes between them and their subjects. The commendator (De Haro) considers this the device of Don John Manuel, who with such a plausible pretext seeks to bring about an interview between these two kings, in order through his craft and cunning to compass an agreement, or something not beneficial to all parties.

Don John induced the Princess to take this step by means of her governess, his cousin (*zermana*),* giving her to understand that it will prove highly advantageous.

The commendator De Haro trusts, however, that nothing will come of this, as he has acquainted the Princess with all the villany of these people, and feels sure that she will immediately intercept and thwart this negotiation, by reason of her being the obedient daughter of the King of Spain.

Antwerp, 26 July 1505.

[*Extract, Italian, 1¼ page, folio.*]

Aug. 1. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 57.

**851.** The SAME to the SAME.

Announces the receipt of letters from the camp, purporting that peace had been concluded between the King of Castile and the Duke of Guelders, who, on the 29th ultimo, was to be at Arnheim to swear to it.

* In Bergenroth's Calendar, the governess Doña Elvira Manuel is styled *sister* of Don John Manuel (p. 357), but Quirini here writes *cousin*, correcting himself however in letter No. 99, where he represents Doña Elvira as the *sister* of Don John. "Zermana" in the Venetian dialect invariably means cousin; never sister.

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The Duke (*sic*) of Suffolk, called "White Rose," concerning whom he wrote to the State that he was besieged in a castle in Guelderland, is now in the power of the King of Castile,—intelligence which greatly delights this country; and his Majesty hopes by means of this individual to keep the bit in the mouth of the King of England.

Antwerp, 1 August 1505.

[*Original, Italian, 1½ page folio.*]

Aug. 5. **852.** FLANDERS TRADE.

Sanuto Diaries, v. vi., p. 135.

Receipt of letters from the captain of the Flanders galleys, Marco Antonio Contarini, dated Hampton, 14th July. On account of disputes between the King of England and the Archduke, a prohibition had been issued against bringing goods, under penalty; so the merchandise brought by the galleys to the island from Flanders was seized, most especially linens belonging to the admiral and to noblemen: and not that of others.

Also the King had laid a certain duty of 4*d.* (*denari quatro*) on each piece of cloth and serge; and some 9,000 pieces had been loaded; and this new tax yields about 5,000 ducats. Also the galleys will come with full cargoes—will make 17,000 ducats freight-money; and by private letters it is heard that at Antwerp spices fetched no price, by reason of the great quantity brought from Colocut.

[*Italian.*]

Aug. 7. **853.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 70.

Details the conditions of the peace between the King of Castile and the Duke of Guelders. The Earl (*sic*) of Suffolk has been sent back to the Duke of Guelders, because, in accordance with the agreements between the Kings of England and Castile, the latter could not keep the Earl.

Announces an expected embassy from France—Mons. de Nevers, the Archbishop of Paris, and the Bailiff of Amiens. Has been told that this mission is sent in order that the King of France may exculpate himself and appease King Philip, it being but too fully proved that both by letters and secret messengers the King of France urged the Duke of Guelders to resist, promising either to obtain peace for him, or else to give him assistance. The object of the King of France in acting thus was to get possession of the Earl of Suffolk, and deliver him to the King of England, who had promised, in the event of obtaining the Earl through his medium, to remit the annual pension of 40 or 50 thousand crowns which the King of France is bound to pay.

Bois le Duc, 7 August 1505.

[*Extract, Italian, 2 pages and 9 lines.*]

Sept. 5. **854.** The SAME to the SAME.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 80.

Yesterday afternoon was visited by the Prince de Chimay, who announced that a joust was to be performed on that night in honor of the Emperor; that he had been commanded by the King to invite Quirini (as he had apartments in the palace,) to supper, after which his Majesty wished him (Quirini) to visit the Queen and see the joust.

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Supped accordingly with the Prince and some seven of the chief noblemen of the country, and was afterwards taken into a chamber, where he found the Emperor and his daughter-in-law.

Queen Juana was dressed in black velvet, looking very well, considering her late illness; and, although it was night, thought her very handsome; her bearing being that of a sensible and discreet woman. Paid her his respects in the Signory's name, and in accordance with his commission. The Queen made a loving reply, and they then went to see the joust, which took place by torchlight, in a spacious hall on the ground floor. The regulations were—two courses—hobbies and flat saddles (*selle raze*), alias foot cloths (*su cavalli picoli*).

The King jousted with a number of noblemen, and when the entertainment commenced, the Emperor, who had been sitting in the hall with his daughter-in-law, disappeared quietly and went to arm, and after a while appeared in the lists incognito. The Emperor tilted thrice against his son, and each shivered three spears so adroitly, that for address and everything else they proved themselves superior to all their competitors.

The joust ended at the fourth hour of the night, when both their Majesties, together with the Queen and all the rest, went to the house of Mons. de Nansoe (Nassau?), where a stately and sumptuous banquet was given, well nigh the whole night being passed in dancing and other amusements.

Brussels, 5 September 1505.

[*Extract, Italian,* 1½ *page folio.*]

Sept. 7. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 81.

**855.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Informs the Signory that the King of Castile is sending as his ambassadors to England Mons. de Sampi and the President of Mechlin, to arrange the disputes between the English and the Flemings, as well known to the State; and to break off the marriage of the young Queen of Naples, promising to give the King for wife his sister, Madame Margaret.

Brussels, 7 September 1505.

[*Extract, Italian,* 1¾ *page folio.*]

Sept. 9. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 82.

**856.** The SAME to the SAME.

Has been present this morning at a priests' first mass, which was attended both by the Emperor and his son; and in the course of conversation the King of Castile mentioned to him the names of the ambassadors. In order to learn something farther, he enquired whether it was true that the King of England had taken a wife. Received for answer that he was in treaty with the young Queen of Naples, but that nothing had yet been concluded; whereupon he remarked, "that all these sovereigns after being once married are unable to remain single." His Majesty rejoined, "Really, ambassador, you are right; the King of Spain likewise has married Madame de Foix, the child of his sister's daughter." Evinced surprise at this, and enquired whether the news was certain. The King replied, "I do not yet know of its being concluded, but they write to me from France that affairs are in such a state that I may

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consider the marriage certain." Whilst telling him this the King's manner evinced small satisfaction.

Brussels, 9 September 1505.

[*Extract, Italian,* 1¼ *page folio.*]

Oct. 6. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 90.

**857.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Although not a merchant by profession, yet being in the midst of Antwerp fair, will not omit acquainting the State with the current price there of spices.

Pepper is worth 18½ "gros" the lb., equal to about 56 ducats the "cargo." Ginger from Alexandria 24 "gros," and what comes from Portugal, of which there is very little, fetches 17. Cloves 60 "gros." Cinnamon 28, and the finest quality 30. Nutmegs 28, "verzi" 3½ ducats the hundred, the best quality, and in such plenty that they are held in no account. That these rates may be more fully understood, adds that the ducat at Antwerp is worth 76 "gros," and that 100 lbs., Venetian weight, represent 60 lbs. of Antwerp. According to general report a considerable supply of all these articles is expected daily from Portugal; but the gingers will be of the same inferior quality as aforesaid.

Antwerp, 6 October 1505.

[*Extract, Italian,* 3 *pages and* 4 *lines.*]

Oct. 27. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 93.

**858.** The SAME to the SAME.

Receipt by the King of Castile of letters from his ambassadors in England. From what he (Quirini) hears, the King of England requires that in virtue of the treaties between them the King of Castile do surrender to him the Duke of Suffolk, called "White Rose," now in the hands of the Duke of Guelders, the subject of the King of Castile, according to what the King of Castile says, as he styles himself Duke of Guelders.

With regard to the proposal made by the said ambassadors to the King of England to give him Madame Margaret for wife, they state that he makes promises both to them and the French, who offer him the Dauphin's mother (Louise of Savoy), and also to the King of Spain, who wishes to give him his niece, the young Queen of Naples. His marriage with the last mentioned lady, as told him (Quirini) by the Spanish ambassadors, is privately concluded; in such wise that the King of England cannot withdraw without the consent of the King of Spain.

Brussels, 27 October 1505.

[*Extract, Italian,* 2 *pages and* 6 *lines.*]

Nov. 22. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 98.

**859.** The SAME to the SAME.

Has been visited by the burgomasters and a deputation from the government of Bruges, showing extreme anxiety that Venice should resume its trade with their town, and that the Flanders galleys should make the port of Sluys, as formerly, instead of Antwerp. They caused others to urge this also, and compelled the King to write on the subject to the captain of the Flanders galleys (Vincenzo Capello, then at Southampton,) then bound thitherwards, exhorting him to come to Sluys, promising that the galleys should

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receive better treatment there than at Antwerp. Wrote in a cautious manner to the captain at Hampton, and announced the request, but left everything to his option.

Bruges, 22 November 1505.

[*Extract, Italian, 2 pages folio.*]

Nov. 29. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 99.

**860.** VINCENZÓ QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Owing to the hopes given by his ambassador in England, Mons. de Sampi, that he will succeed in accomplishing the marriage between the King of England and Madame Margaret, the King of Castile sent Dom. Philibert the other day with autograph letters of credence to Madame Margaret, who is in Savoy, to learn from her whether she would marry the King of England. No answer has yet been received. In the meanwhile has discussed the matter with a discreet and prudent person of the court, who places small reliance on the fair words of the King of England, because he acts in the same manner towards the King of France as towards the King of Spain with regard to his marriage, making promises to each of them for the sake of gaining his end, and would fain get out of the hands of the King of Castile the Duke of Suffolk, called "White Rose," whom that King obtained last October from the Duke of Guelders, and who is now in the castle of Namur. The King of England also wants the duty laid by him at Calais on all merchandise passing from England to Flanders, whether the property of his own subjects or of Flemings, to remain in full force; whilst, on the other hand, he requires the King of Castile to repeal the duty levied by him in return, on all merchandise entering Flanders from England. Such is the dispute between the two countries, owing to which their [commercial] intercourse has been interrupted during so many fairs.* Besides this, the King of England requires the King of Castile to renounce and cede to him all his rights and claims on the city of Calais, which is in Flanders, and belongs to this house of Burgundy; and as both one and the other of these demands redound to the profit of the Prince of Wales and of the Princess, the sister of Queen Juana, who receive the revenues of Calais, the Princess has sent hither her governess, the sister of Don John Manuel (Doña Elvira Manuel), to request the King and Queen to grant what is aforesaid, as it concerns herself. Everybody considers these demands extravagant and of difficult concession; though yet greater perhaps is the wish of the King of Castile to arrange all differences, and to ally himself with the King of England as closely as possible, for the safety of the country during his absence, and in order to secure a free passage to Spain should fortune cast him on the soil of England. Already, amongst the other demands made by his ambassadors of King Henry, is one for a safeconduct for his voyage.

The Duke of Guelders still gives out that he will not cross over to Spain. Besides the excuse of illness, he complains in the first

* The great fairs of Antwerp took place twice a year, at Whitsuntide and in October. The fairs of Bruges were no less frequented by English traders than those of Antwerp. An Act of Parliament alluding to the commercial relations between the two countries, at this period, mentions "the universal marts holden *four* times in the year."

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place that the Duke of Suffolk has been taken from him; and secondly, that they have not kept the promise made to him of the pension, which was to commence on the very day of the agreement, but that as yet he has not received one farthing. A gentleman has been sent to speak to him, and there is a strong suspicion of a French plot.

Ghent, 29 November 1505.

[*Extract, Italian, 2½ pages folio.*]

Dec. 20. **861.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 105.

Since his last of the 18th from Ghent, King Philip has remained constantly in Zealand hoping for fair weather; but as the weather has continued too bad for his voyage, he came hither to Bruges the day before yesterday, meaning to remain hunting hereabouts, at Mechlin, and perhaps at Antwerp, until the weather clears. He has only brought 20 horsemen; the rest of the court remain in Zealand to be ready whensoever the moment for departure shall arrive.

On Sunday last, his Majesty made seven knights of the Fleece, namely the Count of Furstemberg, captain of the German infantry, destined for Spain; Mons. de Verre, who was absent, being ambassador in Spain; Monsr. de Lalem (Lalaing); Monsr. de Listen (Floris d'Egmond, Seigneur d'Isselstein); Monsr. de Nasoe (Nassau); Don John Emanuel, and Count Horn.

The negotiations for the marriage between the King of England and Madame Margaret seem to become closer daily, so that many very well informed persons think the marriage will take place, provided they can obtain the consent of the lady, who at present seems rather averse to it.

Understands, moreover, on good authority, that a fresh league and confederacy is nearly concluded between the Emperor, the King of Castile, King of England, and King of Scotland, his son-in-law, and perhaps the Pope likewise. With this object Dom. Philiberto went to Rome; the King of Castile being instigated by the fear and ill will which he bears the King of France, by whom he considers himself beyond measure aggrieved, and with regard to whom he has occasionally allowed words to escape his lips of a very evil nature. The Emperor on his part is desirous of this union, on the same account. The King of England, besides being indifferently satisfied with France, would, according to report, be glad to secure himself against the Duke of Suffolk, "White Rose," who is in the hands of the King of Castile, and who is a great thorn in his eyes, for he knows that the people of England love and long for him, and one day or other he might do the King of England much mischief. The King of Scotland likes to be talked of in the world; although the potentates above mentioned declare that he also complains much of France, because, notwithstanding ancient treaties and agreements, whereby the King of France was bound in all his leagues and treaties of peace to make mention of Scotland, he omitted doing so on the last conclusion of peace with Spain. This league is being negotiated for the mutual benefit of the contracting parties, and, if concluded, power is reserved to admit the King of

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Spain in case he choose to join. The King of Castile hopes, on conferring with that King, not merely to make him join it, but moreover to break off the marriage with Madame de Foix; on which account, as also by reason of his being daily urged to depart by the King of Spain, he hastens his voyage as much as he can.

The Duke of Guelders, on hearing of the adjustment between the Kings of Spain and Castile, says he will do his utmost to go to Spain as he promised, though excusing himself on the plea of illness. Small reliance is placed on his promise.

Bruges, 20 December 1505.

[*Extract, Italian, 2 pages folio.*]

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Jan. 1. **862.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 106.

King Philip is awaiting fair weather to embark for Spain. Contested election for the see of Liege; intentions of Lewis XII. to demand a castle near Cambrai and a fortress in Artois of the King of Castile, relinquished by reason of his reconciliation to the King of Spain. Determination of King of Castile to take his revenge, should an opportunity present itself.

Arrival here this day of the Archbishop of Treves, Elector of the Empire, on his way to England, in the Emperor's name, to conclude the marriage between King Henry and Madame Margaret, and possibly also the league and confederation alluded to in a former letter.

Middleburgh, 1 January 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 1 page folio.*]

Jan. 4. **863.** The SAME to the SAME.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 107.

In hopes of a change of weather from day to day the King of Castile has not ventured to quit Middelburgh for Antwerp or any other place, lest he should lose a fair wind to take him out of port.

News of the election of Everard de la Marck to the see of Liege; reasons assigned for the regrets of King Philip on this account. Duke of Guelders encouraged by this circumstance to refuse to go to Spain, the new Bishop being very friendly towards him.

Departure of the Archbishop of Treves from Middleburg for Antwerp, there to await his commission from the Emperor, for England.

This morning, after attending high mass, the King of Castile caused the agreement stipulated by him with King Ferdinand to be proclaimed in church, and declared his intention of embarking with the first fair wind.

Announced the receipt of his (Quirini's) commission from the State to follow the King, who seemed much pleased at this and assigned him one of the best ships in the fleet. Regardless of expense, has sent the horses, with which the republic provided him, over land to Spain.

King Philip has heard from France that Madame de Foix, the bride of the King of Spain, has already departed for Spain, or is on the eve of departure, so that he has no longer any hope of preventing the marriage by this voyage.

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Three very fine ships belonging to the King of Portugal, lately built in Holland for the Calicut voyage, are now in the port of Middleburgh, of 1,000, 700, and 300 butts burthen respectively. These ships are to cross with King Philip's fleet, which will number 40 sail, of from 150 to 400 tons (*sic*), all in excellent trim, and with the most abundant supply of victuals that has been shipped on board an armada for many years. On board are many lords and gentlemen, attended by a body guard of 2,000 Germans, extremely well appointed.

Middleburgh, 4 January 1506.

Postscript.—Having detained these presents until today, awaiting weather for departure, we this morning, in the name of the Holy Ghost, embarked on shipboard. The wind is fair, and we shall soon set sail.

Armuyden, 7 January 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 1 page folio.*]

Jan. 23. **864.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Original Letter Book, No. 109.

King Philip and Queen Juana embarked at Armuyden on the 7th instant with their whole retinue, but, in order to await the full moon, the fleet did not go out of port until the morning of the 10th. The wind was then fair, and continued so the whole of that day and the next until off Hampton, when towards midnight, after a dead calm, every ship having all sail set, so violent a storm sprang up from the N.N.E., as greatly to alarm the oldest and most experienced hands, for the night was dark and the channel unsafe, and great was the labour and peril of lowering the sails. That night one third of the fleet parted company; and the wind lasted the whole of the 12th, taking them to the edge of the Bay of Biscay, so far as the pilots could ascertain from their soundings. A calm then ensued, and continued until the evening of the 13th, when the wind rose from the W.S.W., full upon the coast of England. Orders were then given to tack throughout the night, in the hopes of a change for the better, but the sea and wind rose so highly, that about midnight, when possibly not more than 50 miles from the shore, and when such was the darkness that not an object could be distinguished one span a head, a terrible hurricane commenced, of which the oldest mariners in the fleet say they have not experienced the like within the last half century. All now sought for safety as they best might: some ships stood out to sea, others made for land; amongst the latter was his (Quirini's) ship. At daybreak eighteen sail found themselves in a dense haze so close upon the land that all gave themselves up for lost. Attributed their safe arrival in Falmouth to the miraculous mercy of the Almighty, to whom they had addressed vows and prayers, despairing of any other succour.

King Philip and Queen Juana took the other tack and remained out at sea in the gale the whole of the 14th and 15th, when, with only two ships, they were driven into Portland, a road (*uno reduto*) and not a port, ten leagues from Hampton.

Of the rest of the fleet, four ships got into Plymouth and three into Dartmouth, off which harbour three others foundered, though the greater part of the crews were saved. Nothing has been heard as

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yet of any of the other vessels. On making Portland, King Philip immediately sent expresses to Plymouth, Dartmouth, and Falmouth, announcing his safety, and desiring the vessels to await further orders.

Has heard nothing since of the King, he (Quirini) being in Cornwall at the extremity of the island, 250 miles from Hampton, in a wild spot where no human being ever comes, save the few boors who inhabit it. Considers it impossible that King Philip should have left Portland, the weather having never been fair for one single hour, but always blowing a gale either from the W.S.W., or W.N.W., or else from the S.E.; everybody declaring that in the memory of man a worse month of January had never been seen. Mentions the arrival at Falmouth of some sailors out of a Britanny ship, which had also foundered in the storm: on the road they fell in with a man who had saved himself from some wreck, and from his garb, and so far as they could comprehend his language, believed him to be a Venetian galley oarsman. Was therefore apprehensive for the Flanders galleys, and had sent all along the coast to enquire, but no one could be found who knew anything about them; and has received assurance from many quarters that they have not been seen in the Channel.

Falmouth, 23 January 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 2 pages folio.*]

Jan. 30.

**865.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 110.

Whilst waiting for a messenger to convey the accompanying letter to the consul in London, a gentleman arrived at Falmouth, sent by King Philip to notify his well being and his determination to come towards Falmouth by land.

Never had man a narrower escape from drowning than the King. His ship was at sea all Wednesday and until Thursday evening, unable to make any port; the guns and everything else on deck were thrown overboard. When attempting to lower the mainsail, a gust of wind laid it on the sea, carrying the ship gunwale under; nor did she right for half an hour. Had it not been for the aid given by one single mariner, who thrice plunged into the waves and, by cutting away the shrouds, righted the vessel, their plight would have been irremediable; for both the master, the pilots, and the crew were utterly bewildered, and had given themselves up for lost. In the meanwhile the vessel caught fire thrice, so that the chance of death in the flames or in the deep was equal. For a long while the King bore up manfully, always in his doublet about the ship, encouraging everybody; but at length a sea struck him, and he was hurled below with such violence that everybody thought he was killed. Thenceforth he remained with the Queen, who evinced intrepidity throughout; and the King and some of his gentlemen to whom he is affectionately attached, having embraced each other mutually, awaited immediate death, without any hope of escape. The King declared that he did not regret his own death, since such was the will of God; but deeply lamented, first of all, that he should cause the death of so many brave men whom he had

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brought with him, as he firmly believed that since his own ship, which was the biggest, and manned by so many pilots and skilful mariners, perished, there could be no salvation for the rest of the fleet. Secondly, he grieved to leave his children orphans at so tender an age; and thirdly, he deplored the ruin and confusion that might ensue in his territories.

The King of England, on hearing of the arrival of the King of Castile, immediately sent his master of the horse to him, requesting him to go to London, or, if the distance should be inconvenient, to wait at Winchester. An interview had been appointed at Winchester for last Monday, the 26th, and it was expected that the marriage with Madame Margaret and the confederation would then be concluded.

Falmouth, 30 January 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 2 pages folio.*]

Feb. 18. St. Mark's Library, Class x, Cod. clxxiv.

**866.** HENRY VII. to CARDINAL ADRIAN CASTELLESI, BISHOP of BATH.

Informs him that his most dear cousins the King and Queen of Castile, having lately embarked on board their fleet in Zealand for Spain, when within two or three days navigation thence, were driven back by a most perilous storm to England.

Has received them most willingly; and having written fully to the Pope about their coming, and his negotiations with them, has desired that a copy* of his letter may be inclosed in the present one.

From the castle of Richmond, 18 February 1505.

[*Original, Latin, 9 lines, paper.*]

Feb. 25. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 111.

**867.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Since his last of the 23rd and 30th ultimo, has been daily expecting the arrival of the King of Castile. A messenger has now arrived, saying the King of Castile is still with the King of England, who has shown such kindness, made such entertainments, and lavished so many honors on his guest, that it would have been impossible to do more. The Kings of England and Castile have concluded and proclaimed a new and very close alliance, which was ratified and sworn to at the altar, after a solemn mass on the consecrated wafer, of which both their Majesties partook. The King of Castile has accepted the "Garter" from the King of England, and given the "Fleece" in exchange to the Prince of Wales. The King of Castile has sent Monsr. de la Chau,† his trusty privy councillor, to Flanders, for the purpose, as generally credited, of removing hither the Earl of Suffolk, called "White Rose," in order to deliver him to the King of England. The opinion may be false, though it is not formed without reason. Queen Juana is to leave Romford (14 miles from London) for Falmouth; and on the same day the King of Castile, out of compliment to the King of England, is going to visit Richmond, to remain eight days, and then proceed to Falmouth to join his fleet, which has assembled there.

* Not preserved.

† In the original the name of this individual is written "de Lascio," and occasionally "Lasciao," or "Lassao." In Robertson's History of Charles V. the name is printed as in my text. In Gachard's "Monuments de la Diplomatie Venetienne," p. 66, it is said that this statesman was Charles de Pouquet, Seigneur de la Chaulx, a Burgundian.

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Was extremely anxious to join the King of Castile, for the better performance of his duty to the State; but, in the first place, Falmouth is 250 miles distant, and the road is represented as the worst possible. Again, he is without horses, having sent his own to Spain by land, as already mentioned, and in a very wild place which no human being ever visits, in the midst of a most barbarous race, so different in language and customs from the Londoners and the rest of England that they are as unintelligible to these last as to the Venetians. From these people, pay what he might, he could obtain no horses but pack horses, nor any other accommodation. Besides, had similar impediments not existed, it would have been impossible for him to stir, as, owing to the effect of the gale and the hardships endured afloat, he, in common with the greater part of the gentlemen now at Falmouth, had suffered attacks of ague. His attacks were most violent, and although they were brief, yet is he as weak as if they had been upon him for a month.

Will be guided by circumstances, but regrets not having the means of giving the State such copious advices of all events in England, as is his duty, though the blame must rest with that fortune which brought him to Falmouth, the last English port towards Spain, and where he is unable to find conveyance for his letters to London at any price.

On the 23rd instant received the Signory's letters through the consul in London, dated 16th December, charging him on behalf of the Senate to congratulate King Philip on the adjustment with King Ferdinand, and acquaint him with the great satisfaction derived thence by the State.

Falmouth, 25 February 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 2 pages folio.*]

March 13. Sanuto Diaries, v. vi., p. 209.

**868.** NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

Receipt of letters from England how the Archduke or King of Castile had arranged matters with the King, and promised to give him his adversary "White Rose," for whom he had sent; also that the Archduke's sister, the widow of the Duke of Savoy, was to marry the King of England.

[*Italian.*]

March 17. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 112.

**869.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Until the 16th instant the lords and gentlemen at Falmouth, who constituted almost the entire retinue of the King of Castile, had not received any letters or certain news from his Majesty; for two days after taking leave of the King of England, the King of Castile fell sick and was obliged to stop at Reading, where he remained some days indisposed, but did not write word of this to the Queen, who had been for some time at Exeter, or to Falmouth, lest the Queen should take alarm and his troops make some stir.*

Has had the greatest difficulty in forwarding his letters from Cornwall.

* These troops were the 2,000 Germans already mentioned in date of Middleburgh, 4th January 1506.

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Yestereven the King of Castile's master of the horse arrived at Falmouth with money for the pay both of the German infantry and of the ships which had arrived in that port. By order of the King the master of the horse visited him, and assured him that his Majesty was quite recovered, and would be in Falmouth in a week, with the intention of setting sail with the first fair wind.

Has been told by a cordial friend, a person of great prudence, who accompanied the master of the horse, that Monsieur de la Chau, who had according to report been sent to Flanders, went to Spain with such speed that he reached the court in 14 days, letters having been already received announcing his arrival there. Some persons fancied that the object of this journey was to ascertain, whether, on the receipt of the news of the storm, and of the King of Castile's landing in England, any change had taken place; others were of opinion that Monsieur de la Chau was charged to negotiate a triple league between the Kings of Spain, England, and Castile.

Was also told by the same friend, that three gentlemen had been sent to Flanders to bring to England the Duke of Suffolk, called "White Rose;" but the council of Mechlin refused to give him up, and wrote that they would be very willing to surrender him on hearing that their King had quitted England, as they did not choose the King of England, after obtaining "White Rose," to have power to demand some other greater concession. The King of Castile, on the other hand, having pledged himself to the surrender before he embarks, keeps his word, and has written back to Mechlin, and sent another of his gentlemen, a dear favourite, to bring the aforesaid Duke of Suffolk at any rate, as he is determined not to quit this country until "White Rose" be in the hands of the King of England. It is suspected that this circumstance may delay the departure for some days.

Falmouth, 17 March 1506.

[*Extract, Italian,* 1¾ *page folio.*]

March 27. **870.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Original Letter Book. Letter No. 113.

Announces the arrival at Falmouth yesterday of the King and Queen of Castile, who have been long expected. They were in good health, and very glad to find themselves with so many of their servants, whom they at one time feared never to see again. Although not very strong, rode forth a distance of five or six miles from Falmouth to meet the King, and received such greeting as to prove that companionship in distress greatly increases affection. On seeing his pallid face, the first words the King said were, "Ambassador, it is very evident you love me, for not merely by sea, but likewise in sickness have you followed me;" and added many other expressions, evincing to everybody his great satisfaction at being attended by a Venetian ambassador, in order that the Lord Treasurer and the master of the horse of the King of England, with a number of other lords who had accompanied him to Falmouth, should have ocular demonstration of the fact.

The King of Castile and all his attendants bestow the highest praise on the King of England, who could not have done more

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even had he been the King of Castile's father; and whilst the Kings were together, and also afterwards all through the country, the King of Castile received as much honour as if he had been the Prince of England. The whole way along the road, thus far, the King of Castile and all his retinue had their expenses defrayed, but are henceforth to be at their own cost, as has been the case with himself (Quirini) and all the others during their stay at Falmouth.

Touching the negotiations between the two Kings, has not as yet been able to learn more than the confirmation of what he wrote heretofore, namely, the alliance and close friendship ratified between them, and the surrender of the Duke of Suffolk as promised by the King of Castile, with a promise and public oath, however, from the King of England to forgive him every injury, to restore to him his confiscated property, and to treat him as his loyal kinsman.

Understands, moreover, that whilst the two Kings were together at Richmond, two French ambassadors accredited to the King of England arrived there, and went to visit the King of Castile, condoling with him in the name of King Lewis on the storm, and congratulating him on his escape and on having reached a spot where a warm welcome awaited him; adding, that the like would have befallen him had he put into Britanny or any other port of France; and that they were commissioned by their sovereign to thank the King of England for the good reception given by him to his Majesty. The King of Castile answered them in a similar strain, but believes that they were sent for the sole purpose of ascertaining the conclusion of the negotiations to be effected in Spain.

The Spanish ambassador resident with the Emperor (Don Pedro de Ayala), who from ill health had remained at Bruges, has also arrived. He tells him (Quirini) that the King of Spain, having heard of the misfortunes of his son-in-law and daughter, commanded him to come to them, for the purpose, he (Quirini) supposes, of assisting at the treaty, though he came too late, for when he arrived the King of Castile had already taken leave of the King of England.

The fleet dispersed by the storm is now reassembled at Falmouth, where six Biscayan barks have lately arrived, sent by the King of Spain to replace those which perished in the gale. Has been assured by the King of Castile that he would sail with the first fair wind, and expects him to do so, both from his wish to be in Spain, and also because there is a great scarcity at Falmouth, where he incurs intolerable expense.

In accordance with the State's letters of 16th December, has again congratulated the King of Castile on his adjustment with the King of Spain, and received thanks in return. His Majesty said there was no need of assurances to convince him and his father-in-law of the love borne them by the Signory; adding that at Hampton he had found the two Flanders galleys commanded by Michiel and Capello, who went to visit him, and made many offers, with which he was very much pleased.

Falmouth, 27 March 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 2 pages and 9 lines folio.*]

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March 28. **871.** DESPATCHES from ENGLAND.

Sanuto Diaries, v. vi., p. 212. Receipt of letters from England from Vincenzo Quirini, Doctor, ambassador, dated Falmouth, 6 April. The King [of Castile] was arrived there, having been preceded by the Queen; they were awaiting weather to embark and cross to Spain.

[*Italian.*]

March 30. **872.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 114. Since the arrival at Falmouth of the King of Castile, has exerted himself vastly to learn some of the particulars concerning his conference with the King of England, and is assured by several persons that the result is a confirmation between the Kings of the peace and confederation, with the identical terms and clauses which the Emperor swore three years ago in his own name and that of his son when at Antwerp,* purporting that each of the parties was bound not to harbour the enemies of the other; and further pledged themselves, in the event of getting possession of such enemies, immediately to surrender them, especial mention being made of the Duke of Suffolk, called "White Rose," who by this time is supposed to have been surrendered to the King of England,† but on condition that he is to be pardoned and restored to his possessions. The marriage of Madame Margaret is said not to be concluded, but simply discussed; as also that of an infant daughter of the King of England to a son of the King of Castile. It is also reported that Monsieur de la Chau has been sent to Spain to negotiate an agreement between King Ferdinand and his son-in-law, to the intent that they be the rulers and governors of Castile, as stipulated between them, and that Queen Juana may not interfere, nor be allowed to administer affairs of state, for the reason that her conduct since she left Flanders has been that of a woman whose intellects are not sufficiently sound for such a charge; and it is strongly suspected that husband and wife will disagree, and that the King of Castile will speedily return to his own country; it being evident that on reaching Spain, the Queen will choose to govern and be mistress. This is the dread of the King of Castile's councillors, who know how hateful they are to the Queen, and therefore seek to make the arrangement with her father, that she may be put under restraint. Others again say that the mission of Monsieur de la Chau has for object to prevent the marriage of King Ferdinand to Madame de Foix; this assertion being based on a belief that the King of Castile proposed doing so, had he arrived in time.

This day, whilst at mass together, the King of Castile told him he had received letters of a recent date from Spain, purporting that his father-in-law and all the rest (*tuto el resto*) were anxiously expecting him; and that Monsieur de la Chau, whom he sent hence, had been at the court some time, together with the other ambassador, Monsieur de Verre.

Falmouth, 30 March 1506.

[*Extract, Italian,* 1¼ *page folio.*]

* See Rymer, 19 June 1502.

† Edmund de la Pole arrived at Calais on the 16th March 1506, and was conveyed to Dover on the 24th of that month. (See Chronicle of Calais, p. 6.)

1506.
April 4.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 115.

**873.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

By his last, of the 30th ultimo, acquainted the State with two of the reasons assigned for the mission to Spain of Monsieur de la Chau. Has since ascertained through a trustworthy channel that he was sent by King Philip to arrange with King Ferdinand for the decorous maintenance of Queen Juana as consort, without giving her further authority, and that her father and husband should alone govern the kingdom of Castile, so that being dissimilar to her mother in intellect, she be likewise dissimilar to her in authority. This was done because in the recent arrangement between Spain and Castile, it had been stipulated that Queen Juana might intervene as a third party for the administration of the state, with power to sign and command. King Ferdinand and King Philip now, however, say that they have discovered her incapacity for such a charge, and all the ministers of King Philip desire and urge this arrangement, suspecting that if the Queen, who hates them extremely, exercise authority in Spain, she may not only seek to disgrace them with the King, and deprive them of their influence over him, but also annul the pensions assigned them since the adjustment in the kingdom of Castile; some of the ministers receiving 1,000 ducats annually, some 800, and others 500.

The ministers also seek to avoid an insurrection. They fear lest Spaniards, who are turbulent naturally—especially the grandees, who love change and have feuds amongst each other—might rise and make some stir on the plea of choosing to be governed by the Queen, who is their legitimate sovereign. Their object now is, that before the arrival of King Philip, his father-in-law should circulate a report that Queen Juana is unfit to govern, as is generally believed here; and they hope King Ferdinand will accede to their wishes, both as it may prove to his interest, and also because, on the death of Queen Isabella, amongst the other reasons assigned by him for not ceding the government of Castile, he alleged that his daughter was incapable and unfit to rule; an opinion which he seems to retain, according to the last letters of King Philip's ambassadors, who are doing their utmost to arrange this business, as it affects them personally: Monsieur de Verre having an annual pension in Castile of 3,000 ducats, together with a promise of the first vacant bishopric for one of his brothers, and Monsieur de la Chau a pension of 1,000 ducats; and all live in hopes that King Philip may provide their children, grandchildren, and remotest connexions with commanderies of St. James, of Calatrava, or of Alcantara; for although King Ferdinand be the master of these three orders, and has all the revenues, yet the vacant commanderies are in the alternate gift of either sovereign, and when King Philip's turn comes, King Ferdinand is bound to accept his presentations.

Was informed this morning by the Spanish ambassador, who is his friend and places great trust in him, that yesterday King Philip sent him to visit the Queen, whom he had not allowed to see the ambassador or anybody else for many days. When about to enter her chamber, Don John Manuel, who accompanied him, gave him notice that if he wished to oblige the King, he would not stay long, and do good service. Having entered the chamber, he

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received cordial greeting from the Queen; she would not allow her hand to be kissed, insisted upon his being seated, and very tenderly made many inquiries of him how her father fared, six months having elapsed since she had received any news of him; and whether it was true that he wished her as much harm as she was told he did. The Queen asked if, after hearing of the storm, he had announced that she and her husband were gone back to Flanders, and no longer intended to proceed; and last of all, whether her going into Spain displeased him so much.

The ambassador replied that none of these things were true; nay, that the King her father loved her and her husband as his very dear children, and had no greater wish in the world than to see them. Thereupon the ambassador took leave as quickly as he could. He told him (Quirini), moreover, that he knew for certain that King Philip's councillors had given the Queen to understand that her father bears her ill will, and would fain not see her in Spain, in order that on her going thither with this impression, she might, at their first meeting, treat him unbecomingly; whilst King Ferdinand, being informed in like manner, that his daughter loved him not, and was such as they described her, would the more readily consent to deprive her of the government.

Falmouth, 4 April 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 2 pages folio.*]

April 6.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 116.

**874.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Announces receipt of letters from the captain of the Flanders galleys (Vincenzo Capello), urging him to induce the King of Castile to exempt the Flanders galleys from certain dues to which they had been lately subjected at Antwerp. Has ascertained that these dues were levied indiscriminately on all ships arriving in that port; that the King farms them annually to the highest bidder, and that they are of small amount, as told him also by the captain himself; for the sum levied on all the galleys did not amount to 80 ducats. Understands, moreover, that last year, when King Philip went to see the galleys commanded by Mari Antonio Contarini, the crews petitioned him to this effect, but were not entirely relieved, and say they still pay a certain sum.

Mentioned this to the King, and although the duty has been farmed for the present year, and is levied on ships of all nations, nevertheless, to oblige the State, the King wrote to his farmer of the customs, desiring him to exempt the galleys of the Signory from this tax, and debit the King with the amount; and has in like manner written to the Lord Treasurer to admit the diminution, and credit the farmer accordingly.

A servant of the King of Castile has arrived from Flanders, with money. He accompanied the Duke of Suffolk to London, where the Duke was sent to the Tower, in pursuance of the sentence passed on him by the Council of London, though it is said they will subsequently draw up another edict, acquitting him, and restoring his property, as they promised the King of Castile.

Since the King's arrival at Falmouth, the weather has never

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served for departure; all the vessels are ready, and when the wind becomes fair, would sail in an hour.

Falmouth, 6 April 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 1 page folio.*]

April 13. **875.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 117.

Heard this morning from a friend of his that a fresh difficulty has now arisen between the King of Castile and his consort, and although of a trifling nature, thinks fit to acquaint the State with it, for better judgment of the whole affair.

On quitting Flanders, King Philip, according to custom, appointed as the Queen's companion a Flemish Countess, a very superior woman (*dona d'assay*) called Madame de Veinge (*sic* ?) in lieu of another Countess, who, on account of old age, would not cross the sea. With this new companion Queen Juana became extremely dissatisfied. Believes the reason to be, that she bears equal hatred both to the men and women of Flanders, though until now she has never remonstrated. At present, however, considering herself perhaps nearer her own kingdom, and more free than heretofore, she is obstinately bent on making this Countess return to Flanders. To this the King objects; so her Majesty is very angry, and during the whole of this last Passion week* never went out of doors, and will not allow herself to be seen or spoken to by any one, nor come abroad, until this Countess return to the place whence she came. It is suspected that in the end King Philip will be obliged to humour the Queen, although unwillingly, as he considers it a slur upon him and indecorous that his wife should go to Spain without any lady attendant whatever (*senza dona alcuna*). A year ago, from jealousy, she dismissed all her women and maiden attendants (*quanto done et donzelle l'avea*), except the one old Countess who has stayed behind; and in short, if what everybody says be true, Queen Juana appears beyond measure jealous of her husband, and unless she change her character in Spain, they can never agree.

Within the last few days negotiations have been commenced for a marriage between the eldest son of the Duke of Lorraine, and the eldest daughter of the King of Castile.

Wind still contrary; considers it high time to complete the voyage, three months having now elapsed since the fleet quitted Flanders.

Falmouth, 13 April 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 1¼ page folio.*]

April 15. **876.** HENRY VII. to POPE JULIUS II.

Venetian Archives, Pacta Portfolios.

Owing to the recent death of William, late Bishop of London, has appointed in his stead Richard Bishop of Chichester, councillor and President of his Council, and has deemed him worthy of being recommended to the Pope for translation to the cathedral church of London.

Requests the Pope to transfer and promote the Bishop of Chi-

* In the year 1506 the 12th of April was Easter day.

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chester to the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, to be pastor and Bishop thereof.

From the Palace of Greenwich, 15 April 1506.

[*Original, parchment, Latin, 6 lines.*]

April 16. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 118.

**877.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY

This day the wind having shifted to the northward, blowing fair for Spain, the King of Castile issued an order for everybody to be on shipboard in the evening, with the hope of setting sail before tomorrow.

In several of his former letters has stated the three motives which caused the mission to Spain of Mons. de la Chau—1st, to try and ascertain whether any change has taken place in Castile, since the storm,—2nd, to prevent the marriage of Madame de Foix,—3rd, to negotiate the Queen's exclusion from the government.

Concerning all these negotiations the King of Castile has now received a full reply, both by letters from his own ambassadors, and from the King of Spain himself, of the following tenor. Touching the first item, the King of Spain replied that he is as well disposed as ever towards his children, meaning to greet them as becomes a good parent, to keep all the promises made them to the letter, and to give a fair and detailed account of all the revenues received by him from Castile since the death of Queen Isabella, from which period the King and Queen of Castile are to receive one-half of the nett proceeds, after deduction of all costs.

Nothing is said with regard to the marriage [of Madame de Foix], which is already consummated. As to the last item, which relates to the Queen his daughter, the King of Spain in gentle and soothing language prays his son-in-law to try and come speedily to Spain, as he is extremely anxious to see him, and says that as soon as they are together he will arrange both this and every other difficulty so as to satisfy all parties. Such was the entire result of the mission of Mons. de la Chau.

Falmouth, 16 April 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 1 page folio.*]

April 17. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 119.

**878.** The SAME to the SAME.

Embarkation of the King and Queen of Castile at Falmouth, late on the evening of the 16th April. Forced to disembark, as the wind veered from N. to S.W., and is now blowing a gale, without any hope of a speedy change. Despairs of getting out of port during the present moon, which has never looked on one whole day of fair weather for the voyage, the wind blowing constantly either from S.E., S.W., or W.

Intense vexation of the King from his extreme wish to be in Spain, and also by reason of the immense expense incurred by him and all his followers at Falmouth, where the scarcity of everything is incredible, and augments daily.

Arrival on the 15th, in an armed ship from Spain, of the Count of Miranda, sent by the constable of Castile to meet the King and Queen, his kinsfolk. Hoped it had brought them fair weather, but

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it lasted too short a while. Prays for a fair and steady breeze, as the mariners say that, when once past Ushant, any wind will serve.

Falmouth, 17 April 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, ¾ page folio.*]

April 26. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 120.

**879.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

On the 17th, from Falmouth, informed the State how the King had embarked, but was again compelled to land. Subsequently, on the 23rd, the wind having once more got into the northward, with clear indications of lasting, the King made everybody reembark, and at sunset the whole fleet set sail. Arrived at Corunna, on the 26th, at the 21st hour. Reasons assigned for having made that port in preference to Laredo.

Corunna, on shipboard, 26 April 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 2 pages folio.*]

May 2. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 122.

**880.** The SAME to the SAME.

At the suggestion of Don Manuel and other malignants, the King of Castile is now very suspicious of Don Pedro de Ayala, who arrived in England from Flanders, and came with the fleet. The King fancies that Don Pedro is the person who persuaded the Queen to follow her present course of action, so he admonished him lovingly, and told him to remember that he was a Castilian, that the King and Queen were the real sovereigns of Castile, and that henceforth he must use greater caution in plotting against his King than had been the case when his King was with the Emperor in Germany, and subsequently in Flanders and England.

Thereupon Don Pedro exculpated himself boldly, saying that in all his actions, both in Germany and elsewhere, he had always sought the welfare and profit of King Philip more than that of King Ferdinand, and should continue this course for the future; though, should his Majesty not reciprocate that good will, he would depart immediately and go elsewhere. Believes Don Pedro to be really innocent, as he never speaks to Queen Juana, who acts entirely from her own impulse.

In his letter from Falmouth of the 13th April, acquainted the State with the dispute between their Majesties about the Flemish women. At this present the Queen, who ordered them to return to Flanders, having heard one day that they were come hither, has made such great complaints to the King, that he has been compelled, if he would fain live in peace, to send them to Flanders.

Corunna, 2 May 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 2 pages folio.*]

May 8. Original Letter Book, Letter No. 124.

**881.** The SAME to the SAME.

Queen Juana continues to lead the same life of seclusion as in Flanders, nor has she received the visits of any of the envoys, and it is said, persists in not allowing herself to be spoken to, until she sees her father; nor is she visible to any man, save a few

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servants, with the exception of the King, her husband, and not always to him, except on those nights when he sleeps with her.

Corunna, 8 May 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 2 pages folio.*]

May 13.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 127.

**882.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Yesterday, through one D. Pedro Martire,* resident at the court of his Catholic Majesty, received letters from the State, dated 13th and 14th March, the first desiring him to acquaint the King Philip of Castile with the regret experienced by the Senate on hearing of the storm, and with the Doge's gladness to learn the subsequent account of his safe entry into port.

The second letter of the 14th, whereby he was enjoined to visit the King of England, needs small reply, as several of his despatches will have already shown that he was in a district whence he could not visit the King. Had it been otherwise, would at once have anticipated the wishes of the State, without further orders, knowing such to be his duty; but now repeats the statement made in his former letters, that, when the treasurer and the master of the horse of the King of England came to Falmouth with the King of Castile, he went to visit them, and paid such compliments as becoming in the Signory's name.

Corunna, 13 May 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 1½ page folio.*]

June 25.

Original Letter Book, Letter No. 139.

**883.** The SAME to the SAME.

Informs the State that at Benevente the King of Castile found a nuncio from the Pope, and an ambassador from the King of England (Doctor Nicholas West).† Has visited both one and the other, and paid such compliments as were becoming, especially to the English ambassador, whom he acquainted with the order received from the State to pay his respects to the King of England, explaining the reason which had prevented him from executing his commission. Added fitting offers and expressions, with which the English ambassador was well pleased, and said he would announce the whole to his King. This ambassador was come to negotiate the marriage between Madam Margaret, the King of Castile's sister, and the King of England, and between the King of England's daughter and the Prince Don Carlo, the eldest son of the King of Castile; and also to offer congratulations on the King of Castile's safe arrival, and to exhort him to be united and to remain friends with his father-in-law, warning the King that the discord between them proceeds from the King of France, his natural enemy.

Benevente, 25 June 1506.

[*Extract, Italian, 3 pages folio.*]

* The person here alluded to was a Lombard, born at Anghiera, in the Milanese, A.D. 1455, and his letters form the staple of much that is told us of his times by Robertson, Hume, and other historians.

† See Bergenroth's Calendar, p. 403, No. 501.

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July 4.
Original Letter Book, Letter No. 141.

**884.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Has been told by the English ambassador (Nicholas West), that this day he has complained to the King of Castile of the league formed by the King of Castile with the King of Spain, without any mention of the King of England, contrary to the convention whereby the King of Castile is bound not to negotiate any peace or confederation with any party soever, without the knowledge of the King of England. The King of Castile replied that, although in the agreement made by him with his father-in-law they had allied themselves together as becoming a father and son, yet there was no convention between them that could prejudice his confederacy with the King of England.

The ambassador also told the King of Castile that he was not satisfied with this reply, because in the confederacy stipulated with the King of Castile when in England, the King of England bound the King of Castile not to unite himself with others without the knowledge of the King of England; the King of England intending as a third party to enter into the confederacy with the King of Spain.

Mucientes, 4 July 1506.

[*Extract, Italian,* 1½ *page folio.*]

July 11.
Original Letter Book, Letter No. 143.

**885.** The SAME to the SAME.

On the departure of the King of Spain (from Borgo de Renedo in Castile, for Arragon, on the 5th July), the English ambassador passed a day with him, and told Quirini that on behalf of the King of England he had applied for the residue of the dowry of Katharine, the Princess of England, now due, and protested that, unless this residue were remitted, the King of England would send the Princess home. He had thus protested because the King of Spain claimed exoneration, and referred to the King of Castile, the successor of Queen Isabella, as the party liable to pay the dower.

This morning a marriage contract, lately stipulated between the King of England and Madam Margaret, the sister of the King of Castile, was published in chapel. Thereby the King of Castile binds himself to give as dower 300,000 ducats in three instalments—100,000 on the wedding day, and the other 200,000 in two years, besides an annual rental of 50,000 ducats; and two months hence the King of England is to send his ambassadors to solemnize this marriage according to the tenor of the present publication, both the parties subjecting themselves to [papal] censure, in the event of not keeping their promises.

Valladolid, 11 July 1506.

[*Extract, Italian,* 3¾ *pages folio.*]

July 23.
Original Letter Book, Letter No. 145.

**886.** The SAME to the SAME.

The conditions of the marriage of the King of England to Madam Margaret are such as affirmed to him by the English ambassador, save that the 200,000 ducats (in addition to the 100,000

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ready money)] are to be disbursed in six years, and not in two as published.

The ambassador has also given Quirini to understand that another marriage is being negotiated between the Duke Charles, Prince of Spain, the King of Castile's eldest son, and an infant daughter of the King of England, and that he considers it settled; adding that they understand the King of France, suspicious of so close a friendship and union between those two Kings, has commenced treating a marriage between the Dauphin's sister, a girl of 16, and the King of Denmark, a man 50 years old, the enemy of the King of England, and whom the English dread more than any other sovereign, as he rules a race naturally hostile to them. By these means the King of France hopes to keep the King of England in fear and subjection.

Valladolid, 23 July 1506.

[*Extract, Italian,* 1½ *page folio.*]

Aug. 24. Sanuto Diaries, v. vi. p. 256.

**887.** NEWS from CAPTAIN of FLANDERS GALLEYS.

Receipt of letters from the captain of the Flanders galleys, Vincenzo Capello, dated London. 27th July, stating that, on presenting himself to the King, his Majesty invited him to dinner; so on the —— July, he went with 60 horsemen, the masters [of the galleys], the noblemen, and others as far as ———— [Richmond?], where the King was. Received a joyous greeting, his Majesty saying he was the Signory's great friend, and that the other powers, with the exception of himself, bore the Republic ill will. The King wanted to knight him, but he refused; so the King gave him a certain badge to bear in his shield, which he accepted; then dined with his Majesty. Afterwards the King presented him to his daughter-in-law and his daughter, who were playing music.

The galleys also were loaded, 100 bags of wool being left on shore for want of room. The galleys will do well.

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 4. Sanuto Diaries, v. vi. p. 262.

**888.** NEWS from FRANCE that the troops of the King of Castile were under Nymwegen, a town belonging to the Duke of Guelders. The King of England succours the King of Castile; so the King of France in like manner has an understanding with the Duke of Guelders.

[*Italian.*]

Oct. 6. Sanuto Diaries, v. vi. p. 279.

**889.** RICHARD DE LA POLE, "WHITE ROSE," in HUNGARY.

Receipt of letters from the secretary Benedetti at Buda in Hungary.

Richard [de la Pole], "White Rose" of England, the enemy of the King of England, has arrived. The King has sent two ambassadors, who have reached Croatia, to demand his surrender.

[*Italian.*]

1506.
Oct. 10. Sanuto Diaries, v. vi. p. 282.

**890.** AMBASSADOR VINCENZO QUIRINI'S REPORT to the SENATE.

Gives an account of his being wrecked, and about the island of England. Mentions its revenues and position, and the revenues of the clergy; all in good order. As the King of Castile is dead, it is unnecessary to say anything about him. He was 30 years old. The Queen, the daughter of the King of Spain, was considered mad, miserly, and jealous. She does not choose to have women in her court: does not appear much in public: wants her father to rule, together with four governors, namely Mons. de Verre, Mons. de Villeneuve, a Burgundian, and another whose name he will mention subsequently; but to this the grandees of Castile are averse.

The Duke Valentino (Cæsar Borgia) was in confinement at Medina del Campo. He amused himself by watching the flight of his falcons from a balcony. His brother-in-law, Monsr. d'Albret, King of Navarre, provides him with money for his maintenance, and sent a friar to King Philip on his arrival in Castile to demand his release, which was refused.*

Speaks of the affairs of Calicut, and of the voyage thither, much in detail, mentioning the points of anchorage and the ports, and is of opinion that these voyages will not be continued, as they are very expensive. Of 104 ships which went the voyage on several occasions, 72 had returned, and 19 were known for certain to have perished; of the rest there are no tidings, but their loss is considered indubitable. King Philip hoped to obtain that kingdom, as Don Emanuel, King of Portugal, his brother-in-law, is childless.†

In conclusion, thanks God for being born a Venetian, as all the rest of the world, when compared with the policy and justice of the Signory, is nought. Praises his secretary, Angelo Trevisan, &c.

He was commended *de more* by the Doge and the entire Senate.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 21. Sanuto Diaries, v. vi. p. 328.

**891.** SCOTCH AMBASSADOR in VENICE.

On the morning of the 21st, an ambassador from the King of Scotland came into the College, the sages for the orders having been sent to accompany him to audience.

Presented a letter of credence, and said that his King meant to go to Jerusalem. Requested the Signory to give him either galleys or artificers to build them. Was told that his Majesty's demand should be granted willingly, and good greeting was given him.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 30. Sanuto Diaries, v. vi. p. 331.

**892.** ENVOY of the KING of SCOTLAND.

On the morning of the 30th, there came into the College Alvise Contarini, on his return as bailiff and captain of Rimini, and made

* The Report of Burgundy, England and Castile, by Vincenzo Quirini, was published in full at Florence by Eugenio Albéri, A.D. 1839. See "Relazioni," &c., series 1, Vol. i, p. 3., and following.

† The report of the Calicut voyage by Quirini, has also been published by Albéri, A.D. 1863. (Vol. xv. "Relazioni," p. 5, and following.)

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his report as usual. Was followed by the ambassador or envoy of the King of Scotland, Marco Alvise. Does not walk as ambassador with the Signory, although accompanied in the College by the sages for the orders. Demanded the despatch of a certain business. Orders were given to answer the King's letter and to expedite him.

[*Italian.*]

1507.

May 20. **893.** HENRY VII. to POPE JULIUS II.

Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

Since his accession, has been intent on universal peace. At this present is allied by friendship and relationship with well nigh all catholic kings and princes. Has not been moved to this course by any lack on his part of military resources, treasure, or power, as by God's grace it is sufficiently manifest that he is not deficient in the like. Is content with what he at present possesses, and does not seek to extend his possessions, even by such dominions as of right belong to him, nor yet by any foreign conquest; and has moreover been always, by nature, averse to shedding Christian blood. On the other hand, has always been inclined to wage war on the Turks and other Infidels, to avenge so many injuries done to the Christian commonwealth, and also to recover the holy sepulchre and the patrimony of the Church.

Requests his Holiness to pacify the Christian powers, which at the present time the King thinks would not be difficult to accomplish, and moreover to make every effort in favor of this holy expedition against the Infidels, by addressing briefs to all Christian sovereigns, urging them to undertake it and send ambassadors to Rome, with full powers to decide whatever may be requisite touching the choice of the commander or commanders, the amount of forces by land and sea, the number of ships and vessels, the supplies of the necessary provisions and stores, weapons, ammunition, artillery, horses, and military engines, whether for the land or sea service, whether for infantry or cavalry. The Pope must appoint the princes destined to wage this war in person, the number of their armed followers, and the pecuniary contribution to be furnished by those who do not go in person. In addition, the Pope must fix the year, month, and day, whereon this holy expedition shall commence, for how many years it is to last, where the first muster [of the forces] is to take place, which enemy of the Christian faith should be first attacked, and all other points relating to preparatives on so vast a scale.

The Pope will find the King most ready in so holy a cause, nor does the King doubt but that the other catholic princes, or the greater part of them, will accede to his opinion, especially when requested by the Pope.

Assures the Pope that at no time, since he came to the throne, has he seen a more convenient opportunity for the undertaking, considering the vast ability and incredible wisdom of his Holiness; and that other kings and princes would join.

Dated from our castle of London, 20 May 1507.

[*Latin,* 81 *lines.*]

1507.
June 29. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**894.** The DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR in GERMANY.

Enclose copy of a letter concerning Turkish affairs addressed to the Pope by the King of England,—"a King of such condition and quality as is known to everybody; in conformity with which letter, but yet more strongly, it seems that the King of Portugal had written." Are of opinion that both one and the other were inspired by divine providence, lest in the present peril of Christendom so great an opportunity be lost.

It was also carried that the King's letter be read to the Emperor's ambassadors.

[*Italian*, 15 *lines. No copy of the enclosure exists in the Senate's Register.*]

June 30. Deliberazioni *Senato Secreta.*

**895.** The DOGE and SENATE to the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR in FRANCE.

Enclose copy of a letter from the King of England to the Pope, concerning Turkish affairs, announcing that they have caused it to be read to the imperial ambassadors in Venice, a copy being also sent to the ambassadors in Germany, that thay may read it to the Emperor, to induce him "to turn his thoughts to the Christian expedition."

[*Italian*, 40 *lines.*]

Sept. 25. Original Letter Book in St. Mark's Library Letter No. 82.

**896.** VINCENZO QUIRINI to the SIGNORY.

Arrival at the Emperor's court at Inspruck of one Dom. Simon Framberg,* who had been his ambassador in England during two years. Wonderful things reported by him concerning the excellent disposition of King Henry towards Maximilian, and his offers of aid against France; Framberg adding that King Henry purposed sending an ambassador to the imperial court shortly.

Hall, near Inspruck, 25 September 1507.

[*Extract, Italian.*]

Nov. 12. Sanuto Diaries, v. vii. p. 126.

**897.** LETTERS arrived from LONDON, dated —— October, state that at Hampton the galley, Nadalin Contarini master, caught fire from a spark from the firepans; so they were obliged to scuttle the vessel, with the whole cargo, at great loss, and with damage of much merchandise. The deck was knocked to pieces, and the galley sunk. Had this not been done, it would have been entirely consumed. It remained thus two days, and was then raised and repaired.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 30. Sanuto Diaries, v. vii. p. 143.

**898.** LETTERS arrived from the CAPTAIN of the FLANDERS GALLEYS, Andrea Bragadin, dated Hampton. At a place called Huic (*sic*), they encountered a great storm, so that they were in great danger of foundering. Then, on arriving at Hampton the

* In Bergenroth's Calendar (p. 402), the name of this ambassador is written Sigismund Frauenberg, and the extract being made from a German book printed at Stuttgart, the orthography is probably more correct than that of the Venetian Quirini.

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galley, of which Nadalin Contarini was master, caught fire from a candle's end, so that they had to scuttle the galley, with loss of the goods on board. To recover the vessel, they sent to London to the King for workmen and materials, and were supplied with all required; so the State is under great obligation to the King, who wrote the Signory a letter, which was not read in the Senate. Also, the galleys were then preparing to go to Flanders.

[*Italian.*]

1508.

Jan. 11. Sanuto Diaries, v. vii. p. 186.

**899.** LETTERS arrived from the AMBASSADOR in FRANCE, dated Rouen. Letters had been received from the French ambassador in England, stating that a marriage had been agreed between the daughter of the King of England and Don Charles, Archduke of Burgundy.

[*Italian.*]

Jan. 17. Sanuto Diaries, v. vii. p. 190.

**900.** LETTERS arrived from LONDON from the consul, Piero Tiepolo, stating that many bags of wool remained there which the galleys were unable to take. He suggests that the Signory do order their conveyance by any ship, as had been formerly done. Had also communicated the news about the Sophy (Ismael) to the King, who thanked the Signory.

[*Italian.*]

Feb. 29. Library of the Venetian Archives, Miscel. No. 51.

**901.** PROTEST of a BILL of EXCHANGE for 669¼ ducats.

Drawn in Venice at usance plus one month, on the 15th January 1507–8, by Pandolfo Cenani on Giovanni Champucci and Co. in London, payable to Lorenzo Pasqualigo, at the exchange of 52 sterlings per ducat. Protest registered by the notary public (by holy apostolic and imperial authority) John Devereux, at his dwelling in Lombard Street, parish of St. Mary's Woolnoth, on the 29th February 1507–8.*

[*The bill in Italian, the rest of the document in Latin. Parchment, 19 lines.*]

May 13. Sanuto Diaries, v. vii. p. 362.

**902.** LETTERS arrived from LONDON, from Lorenzo Pasqualigo and the merchants, dated — April, addressed to Antonio Condulmer in France. Give notice that there are 1,200 bales of wool, and 12,000 pieces of kerseys and other cloths, so that after loading the galleys, there would be freight for another.

[*Italian.*]

May 16. Sanuto Diaries, v. vii. p. 365.

**903.** A SCOTCH BISHOP in VENICE.

On the morning of the 16th the ambassadors from France, Milan, and Spain came into the College, and a Bishop of Scotland,† dressed in purple camlet, accompanied by Lorenzo Orio, doctor, Marco

* No mention of the rate of exchange on Venice in London, on 29th February 1508.

† This Bishop is supposed to have been Robert Blackader, Bishop of Aberdeen and Glasgow.

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Gradenigo, doctor, and Jacomo Moro and Mafio Machiel, of the "Catavero" office.

He is lodged in Canaregio at Cà Frizier, and has come with . . . persons to go to Jerusalem. Has a revenue of 2,000 ducats. On entering the College sat near the Doge; presented letters of credence and recommendation to the Signory from his King, and from the King of France, and made a Latin oration in praise of the State and of the Doge, and of the good will between his King and the Signory.

He then said he would consult about going either by the Jaffa galley or by the ship. The Doge spoke him graciously as usual.

[*Italian.*]

June 1. **904.** The Scotch Bishop in Venice.

Sanuto Diaries, v. vii. p. 413.

On Ascension Day, the 1st, the Doge went as usual with the ambassadors [and others invited to the dinner] in the Bucintor beyond the two castles [of St. Andrea and St. Nicolò] to espouse and bless the sea. There were present the ambassadors of France, Spain, Milan, and Ferrara, and also a Bishop of Scotland, who is going on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem.

[*Italian.*]

July 7. **905.** Flanders Voyage.

Senato Mar. v. xvii. p. 17.

Decree of the Senate, that the captain of the galleys be confined to his galley on Sunday next, and depart on Wednesday, the other galleys going in succession as usual.

Ayes. 119. Noes, 3. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian, 4½ lines.*]

Aug. 17. **906.** Illness of Henry VII.

Sanuto Diaries. v. vii. p. 473.

Receipt of a letter from the secretary at Milan, with the news that the King of England was very ill, and "*in extremis.*"

[*Italian.*]

Sept. 16. **907.** Tiepolo Bankruptcy in London.

Senato Terra, v. xvi. p. 30.

Decree of the Senate, reciting and confirming an agreement between the firm Tiepolo and Company, of London, and the greater part of their creditors, to the effect that the said firm, if granted a little time, will pay all their debts in cash, giving good security. It is fitting to confirm the agreement, as in other cases, and especially because the signatures of creditors for some 12,000 ducats alone are lacking, the entire debt amounting but to 22,000.

Ayes, 130. Noes, 13. Neutrals, 8. Kinsfolk excluded.

Nov. 5. **908.** Arrival of the Venetian Galleys from the Flanders Voyage.

Sanuto Diaries, v. vii. p. 509.

On the morning of the 5th the Flanders galleys arrived, under captain Andrea Bragadin, who comes with good repute. The masters [were] Zuan Paruta and Giacomo Michiel. The third galley, Nadalin Contarini master, remained off the port, having been unable to

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lighten, but came in on the 6th. "These galleys have very rich cargoes, worth —— ducats."

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 14. **909.** DEATH of the SCOTCH BISHOP.

Sanuto Diaries, v. vii. p. 512.

In these days the Jaffa galley, Jacomo Michiel master, returned, and the ship belonging to the Marconi, on board of which, out of 36 pilgrims, 27 had died, including that rich Bishop of Scotland, the King's relation, who was treated with distinction by the Signory.

[*Italian.*]

Nov. 24. **910.** WOOL TRADE with ENGLAND.

Senato Mar. v. xvii. p. 34.

Decree of the Senate that all wools remaining for shipment in London for Venice, provided they remain in the same hands as those in which they were when the last galleys sailed for Venice, shall take precedence of all other wools purchased subsequently.

Ayes, 138. Noes, 10. Neutrals, 0.

[*Italian*, 10½ *lines.*]

Dec. 9. **911.** ARRIVAL of an ENGLISH AMBASSADOR to the SIGNORY.

Sanuto Diaries, v. vii. p. 525.

Arrival of an envoy to the Signory from the King of England, with letters requesting permission to export a certain wine, which he has purchased because it agrees with him, and which he has been accustomed to receive from Vilacho,* as the State has recently obtained the territory. The Emperor has apologized for being unable to send the wine to England. The King of England requests the Signory to send him the wine.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 10. **912.** BAILIFF of EGLE, Ambassador from the ORDER of RHODES to ENGLAND.

Sanuto Diaries, v. vii. p. 526.

Allusion to the recent return of the Jaffa galley, on board of which came two ambassadors from the Grand Master of Rhodes, who, after making certain communications to the Signory, were to proceed to Milan, and at least one of them, the Bailiff of Egle, (dell' Aquila)† an Englishman, to England. They lodged at the White Lion, and came into the College accompanied by the sages for the orders, who went to fetch them; and after presenting their credentials made many statements, complaining most especially of the master, Lunardo Giustinian, who had disarmed one of their "fustes,"‡ and done damage; and they also claimed compensation for other injuries, and made other demands. The Doge spoke them fair, and dismissed them with "verba generalia."

[*Italian.*]

* Wippach (?), 3 leagues N. of Trieste.

† The Bailiff of Aquila (*i.e.* Egle, in Lincolnshire) was the fourth dignitary of the English "Langue" of the Knights Hospitallers, the first being the Turcopolier, the second the Grand Prior of England, commonly called the Lord of St. John's, the third the Grand Prior of Ireland.

‡ The word "galley fuste," in the year 1638, signified a three-masted vessel; and one was then moored in the Thames, above London Bridge. See a view of London, published in that year at Frankfort.

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Dec. 19. Sanuto Diaries, v. vii. p. 531.

**913.** DISMISSAL, "super verba generalia," of the AMBASSADORS from RHODES. They departed dissatisfied.

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 24. Sanuto Diaries, v. vii. p. 535.

**914.** NEWS from SOUTHAMPTON.

On the morning of the 24th letters were received from Hampton announcing the arrival there of the Flanders galleys under command of the captain Agostin da Mulla; and it was good news their having made the passage "con la colla di San Martim."

[*Italian.*]

Dec. 29. Misti Consiglio X., v. xxxii. p. 56

**915.** The COUNCIL of TEN and the COLLEGE to NICOLÒ DA PONTE, a merchant in London.

Have on several days received divers letters from him, addressed to the chiefs of the Council of Ten; the last, dated the 15th ult., having been detained until the 28th.*

With regard to "the friend" (Pietro Carmeliano, Latin secretary of Henry VII.), comprehend what he has communicated to Da Ponte. Are extremely glad to hear it, both by reason of the fidelity of the narrator, and of the importance of the things narrated, and likewise on account of the good will of the King towards them, which, however, is no novelty, as his Majesty has always loved the State as his special friends, who have ever been the bulwark of Christendom against the Infidel.

Desire him therefore to confer with the said "friend" and thank him for his good offices, requesting him, in the Signory's name, to acquaint the King with their affection towards him. Are very mindful of the friendly offers often made by his Majesty for the benefit of the State, and in case of need will avail themselves of them as freely as they were made.

In conclusion, he is to urge "the friend" to keep the King well disposed towards the State; nor will they fail to do credit to his assurances by their acts.

Last of all, he is to assure "the friend" that, with regard to the benefice which he wishes to have conferred on his nephew, now studying at the Signory's University of Padua, they will very willingly oblige him, and thus confirm the devotion which he feels toward the State.

Postscript.—Desire Da Ponte to read the letter to "the friend," that he may be the better acquainted with the Signory's mind.

Note, that the letter was made out on the 30th December.

[*Letter in Latin, postscript in Italian, 28 lines.*]

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Jan. 15. Misti Consiglio X., v. xxxii.

**916.** DECREE of the COUNCIL OF TEN.

The news now received from England at this important crisis deserves to be discussed with the greatest caution and secresy, lest the negotiation be disturbed or impeded.

* The League against Venice, between Lewis XII. and Maximilian, was signed at Cambrai on the 10th December 1508; and it seems that already in November Henry VII. had warned the Venetians of their danger.

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A junta of 15 individuals, five at a time, as usual, to be elected.

This junta is to attend to all matters concerning the Pope and the Roman court.

[*Latin*, 28 *lines*.]

Jan. 15. Sanuto's Diaries, v. vii. p. 549.

**917.** LETTERS arrived from the CAPTAIN of the FLANDERS GALLEYS. Agostin da Mulla, dated London, 10th December, about his voyage and arrival there, &c., and what has been done; stating that there was a foreign ship loading 1,000 pieces of kersey. Also that the ambassadors of the Archduke of Burgundy had arrived there for the marriage of the King's daughter to King Charles of Castile; and they awaited the conclusion of the same.

[*Italian*.]

Jan. 19. Misti Consiglio X., v. xxxii.

**918.** The COUNCIL OF TEN and JUNTA appointed for this matter, to LORENZO GIUSTINIAN, CONSUL in LONDON.

By his letters of the 16th ult., lately received, have been informed of the announcement made to him by the Reverend Dom. Pietro Carmeliano, respecting the excellent disposition towards the Signory of the King [of England]; and his desire that a good peace should be made with the Emperor, to which end the King would lend his said.

This fact had been notified to them by Nicolò da Ponte; and therefore the Doge with the Council of Ten and the Junta, by this secret letter, charge the consul to tell Dom. Pietro Carmeliano the satisfaction with which they had heard of the King's constant good will, and to request him to return the thanks of the State to his Majesty, assuring the King that the devotion with which they regard him is their genuine feeling, and does not admit of increase. With regard to the Emperor, he is to say that the Signory has ever been most devoted, not only to him (the Emperor), but to all his progenitors, most especially to his late father, whom they always considered in the light of the Republic's parent and protector; and that they have already acquainted the King of England with the causes of the war waged against them last year by the Emperor, and with the Signory's justification, whereby the King would know that they acted on compulsion and in selfdefence, according to all law, divine and human; a good truce for three years being at length sworn to between the Emperor and them.

They now perceive the laudable desire of the King of England to negotiate a good peace. They hear the proposal gratefully, as coming from a sovereign who by his wisdom and authority will know how to bring the business to a good end, and most obliged will they be to him for assuming this charge; as the State, having been ever zealous for peace, will not swerve from such terms as shall be suitable and fair.

Is to impart the whole in detail to Carmeliano for communication to the King, with repeated assurance of the State's affection; and as Carmeliano has notified the same matter to Nicolò da Ponte, the consul is to acquaint him with the present order. They are to

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execute the commission together, and write a joint letter to the Signory in reply.

[*Italian*, 37 *lines*.]

Jan. 19. Misti Consiglio X.

**919.** The COUNCIL OF TEN and JUNTA to LORENZO GIUSTINIAN, CONSUL in LONDON.

Write this [second letter] apart, charging him to read the first word for word to Carmeliano. It would be agreeable to them, if Carmeliano should give the consul an opportunity of speaking to the King on the subject, so that by word of mouth he may acquaint the King with their opinions; in which case he is to read to the King the identical first letter. Inform Carmeliano that in the said letter they do not thank Carmeliano for his good will and exertions in favour of the Signory, in order that he may, if requisite, read the said letter to the King; yet the consul is to express their thanks distinctly by word of mouth, as they perceive the sincerity and the affection which the Carmeliano bears the State. They take good note of it, and mean to prove to him how much they appreciate it, as mentioned in other letters to Nicolò da Ponte.

Although the consul must be aware how important these matters are, and with how much judgment they must be managed, nevertheless he and Nicolò da Ponte may proceed as it seems fit, not communicating their information to any one, still less writing it to others.

Finally, he is to elicit from Carmeliano and also from the King, should he chance to speak with him, minute details of the King's intention; to transmit the intelligence with the utmost speed, regardless of expense; and to use the enclosed cipher for greater secresy.

[*Italian*, 22 *lines*.]

Jan. 30. Misti Consiglio X., v. xxxii. p. 56.

**920.** The COUNCIL of TEN and the JUNTA to LORENZO GIUSTINIAN, CONSUL in LONDON.

Wrote to him on the 19th, sending duplicates, and now, for caution, enclose triplicates.

That which was communicated to him in the King [of England's] name by Dom. Pietro Carmeliano, and which the consul imparted by letter, concerning the negotiations of Cambrai and the French proceedings, has been verified, for after concluding the peace it was understood that it had been thereby stipulated to accomplish the ruin of Italy. The plain fact is, that the Cardinal of Rouen, the author of these negotiations, aspires *per fas et nefas* to the popedom, on obtaining which they (the Cardinal of Rouen and Lewis XII.) purpose, moreover, getting possession of the universal temporal monarchy; and by divers stratagems they are inveigling the Emperor into this detestable undertaking, trying to deceive him as they often have done, and bring matters to such a pass that it will then be impossible to prevent the two swords, spiritual and temporal, from being, the one in the hand of Rouen, the other in the hand of the King of France—who together are two in one flesh, and would consequently

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act together, a result never yet witnessed,* but of easy realisation unless speedily thwarted by such princes as have received greater power and authority from the Almighty than the rest. The Council of Ten and the Junta will not fail doing everything on their part, and believe that many others will do the like, especially the Pope, who of his own wisdom sees the necessary consequence. They are also persuaded that King Henry will interfere, both of his goodness, and also for the safety of the Christian world, which the Infidels are invited by these disturbances to attack.

It is notorious to everybody that the State kept faith with the King of France, and did for him and his dominions all she could have done for her own; nay, she removed the war from his territory to that of the Republic. At this present, contrary to pledged faith, contrary to the clauses and oaths of the mutual alliance, in violation of infinite promises, the King of France has declared himself their enemy.

The consul is personally and privately to communicate all these things to the King, but if unable to obtain an audience is to do so through Carmeliano. Having effected this, he is to let his Majesty know that the Signory are certain he of his wisdom will ponder well the whole matter as becomes its magnitude and importance. He is to exhort his Majesty to acquaint the Emperor with what has been done, so that, whilst time yet serves, he may avoid falling into the snares so often laid for him. Last of all, he is to urge the King to continue his good offices to peace between the Emperor and the Signory, because, as stated in former letters, they do not mean to depart from what is just.

The consul is to expedite the execution of their orders, and transmit constant intelligence by letter, regardless of expense; and as they apprehend that the couriers will be unable to pass in safety through France, he is to try and arrange for the secure conveyance of the letters through Germany, endeavouring to procure leave to employ the King of England's couriers, to be paid by the consul, or to obtain a safeconduct from the Emperor for the couriers. He is to contrive that they may be enabled to communicate with him. That he may write safely, enclose a cipher for his use, not the same as the one sent in former letters.

Ayes, 29. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 1.

[*Italian, 55 lines.*]

Jan. 30. Misti Consiglio X., v. xxxii. p. 66.

**921.** ANDREA BADOER appointed AMBASSADOR to ENGLAND.

Motion made in the Council of Ten, together with the Junta for the affairs of Rome:—

That there be forthwith elected a nobleman [as ambassador] to the King of England, instead of "Ser" Hironimo Giustinan, who has refused. The individual elected to receive for his expenses one hundred ducats per month, from month to month, for which he is not bound to show any account to the Signory; and during the

* Et consequenter tirerieno cum si, cosa che mai per li tempi preteriti è sta veduta.

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whole period of his stay in England he is to keep five servants and as many horses, including the horse for his own person.

Ayes, 28. Noes, 2. Neutrals, 0.

Elected "Ser" Andrea Badoer, son of the late "Ser" Giovanni.

[*Latin, 5 lines.*]

Feb. 12. Misti Consiglio X., v. xxxii. p. 73.

**922.** The COUNCIL of TEN and JUNTA to LORENZO GIUSTINIAN, CONSUL in LONDON.

It had been their intention to send an embassy to the King of England, but as the roads are closed, and the business does not admit of delay, have despatched incognito the nobleman Andrea Badoer, who is familiar with the English tongue, and is travelling as an Englishman. Believe that he will thus be enabled to pass. On his arrival he shall first announce himself to the consul, and then publicly to the King, as the State's ambassador. Were unable to give him either credentials or his commission, lest they should cause his arrest. This commission they now forward to the consul, of the following tenor:

Thou, Andrea Badoer, art to present thyself to the consul and also to Nicolò da Ponte, and, after obtaining from them all necessary instruction, to go into the presence of the King. On obtaining a private audience from him, in the presence of the aforesaid consul and Ponte, announce that thou are sent as our ambassador to deliver our letters of credence, and discover to him the deeply rooted and detestable greediness of the King of France and of the Cardinal of Rouen (George d'Amboise); how they shamefully broke faith, oaths, and their alliance with the State, unmindful of the Signory's great services in securing to them the Milanese in observance of her promise, and thus perilously drawing the war into the Venetian territory; and finally how, consigning to oblivion endless promises made to the State by letter and their own word of mouth, they are preparing to invade the Signory's possessions without any legitimate cause.

Further, that having lately received notice from his Highness of the ill will of the King of France and of the negotiations of Cambrai, we caused him to be thanked by our consul; and now thank him again, with all possible earnestness acknowledging our very great obligation. That his Majesty having also expressed his wish that a good peace should ensue between us and the Emperor, and offered his assistance to this effect, we accepted this his loving offer, and requested him to assume that charge, as doubtless a good result would be obtained, we being most obsequiously disposed towards the Emperor, as we have always been towards his progenitors and predecessors, and most especially towards his father of blessed memory, to which must be added mutual conformity (*mutua conformità*), and the commercial relations of our State with all Germany.

What took place last year was compulsory with us in selfdefence, and not in breach of faith, which we have never broken with any one; a truce was proposed, and accepted by the State, who included the King of France, naming him especially as we were bound to do by the articles of the alliance.

This truce we made very readily with the hope of subsequently

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making a good and perpetual peace with the Emperor; and we are now prepared not only to do this but likewise to come to a good understanding with him, being now free from the tie which last year impeded us. By no law divine or human is the Emperor bound to keep faith with one who has so often betrayed him in most important matters, as is notorious to every one. Moreover, his Majesty of his great wisdom should consider that if the King of France is allowed to occupy Italy the immediate consequence will be the violent usurpation of the popedom, to which Rouen ardently aspires. Thus would France become monarch of the universe by the occupation of the Empire, which would certainly follow, and which with the spiritual authority she would then unite in herself. Such unbecoming and immoderate cravings should be opposed by every Christian and religious sovereign, especially by such as have the greatest grace and power from the Almighty, like his royal Highness of England.

We are certain that he has already commenced the negotiation with the Emperor, and thou shalt pray him to continue it both by letter and by word of mouth, as we doubt not it will obtain an auspicious result, knowing how much influence he exercises with the Emperor, to whom we likewise, following the most sage suggestions of his royal Highness, have intimated and will continue to make clear by all possible means our excellent disposition; for it it would be very absurd and incredible that, after so formally making a triennial truce with the State, he should choose to break it, and violate his faith to us his most devoted servants, for the sake of keeping it with his enemies and affording them opportunity to injure his Cæsarean Majesty himself, the holy Roman empire, and all Germany.

This is the substance of thy statement; and as we cannot come to other details, not knowing what his royal Highness may have done in this matter, and moreover the distance between us being so great that much time is required for the transmission of letters, we tell thee summarily, and in one word, what thou art to do, viz., labour with all thine ability to induce his Majesty of England to reconcile and unite us to the Emperor. Thou shalt also dispose him against France in order to deter her from the invasion of Italy; and the greater and more speedy his demonstration to this effect, the more will it prove to the purpose; and should he forthwith write a strong letter to the King of France in such grave terms as his Majesty of his wisdom will well know how to employ, it would be a very profitable and salutary commencement; and it would also produce great effect, were his Majesty to write to the Pope, acquainting him with his mind, and pointing out the perils of Christendom, which would be augmented by the introduction of such troubles into Italy, and most especially by the disorder of our State; and we consider it indubitable that his Holiness, who is well aware of the snares laid for him, would conform himself throughout to the will of his royal Highness.

There is no occasion for us to say more, save that the negotiation which we place in thy hand is of extreme importance, and therefore the more strenuously thou performest this commission the more wilt

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thou deserve praise, commendation, and reward from our Signory. And as it is requisite to devise means for the safe passage to and fro of the couriers and messengers, as written by us in other letters to the consul, endeavour that his royal Majesty do contrive some good method so that they have safe passage through Germany or by such other road as he shall think fit, so that the negotiations effected by us may the more speedily come to a good end by the regular receipt of intelligence.

In fullest and most earnest language declare to the Rev. Dom. Pietro Carmeliano, how much he is loved and appreciated by us, on account of his sincerity and especial deserts towards the State, for which we mean to show such gratitude to him and his that he will perceive the fruit of his good and faithful services; and avail thyself of his favour with the King, as we are certain he will not fail us, in like manner as he has not been found wanting hitherto. Endeavour to keep us most carefully acquainted with all events, and remain there as our ambassador, in such fashion as becomes the dignity of our Signory, until we send thee other commands.

Postscript.—This is Badoer's commission, which you (the consul) will consign to him. If from any accident he have not yet arrived, we direct you, together with Nicolò da Ponte, to execute it with all despatch, as the circumstances admit of no delay, and to acquaint his Majesty with the mission of our above mentioned ambassador in the manner aforesaid.

Ayes, 28. Noes, 0. Neutrals, 0.

Sending this present by way of Germany, they do not transmit the credentials, lest the leaden seal cause their miscarriage. Will forward them through another channel. In the meanwhile, should the ambassador arrive, the consul is to certify to the King, in the State's name, that what Badoer shall represent to him will be their own words, thus supplying the want of the letter of credence.

[*Italian, 94 lines.*]

Feb. 16. Misti Consiglio X., v. xxxii. p. 74.

**923.** INSTRUCTION from the COUNCIL of TEN and JUNTA to the Imperial Ambassador DOM. LUCA DE RENALDI.

Being aware of his prudence, ability, and address, as likewise of his loyalty and devotion to the Emperor Maximilian, of whom they always have been and are the most respectful worshippers (*observantissimi cultores*), think fit to avail themselves of his intervention to disclose to his Majesty certain matters concerning his honour and interest, and, in addition to their ample instructions by word of mouth, now briefly recapitulate certain points:—Expatiate on their long tried devotion to the Emperor and his ancestors, and on the conformity between the whole State of Venice and the entire German nation. If last year their deeds seemed at variance with this inclination, and if they were unable to obey the Emperor, this did not proceed from any lack of desire to do even much greater things for his Majesty, but from an inability to act, they being then bound by another engagement. From that tie are now released, as they told him, and are therefore ready and anxious to return to their natural course, the Emperor likewise being bound by no law, either divine or human, to keep faith with those who break it so

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easily with others, and who so often and so unworthily have infringed and violated their oath to his Cæsarean Majesty.

Their observance and reverence for the Emperor and the holy Roman empire, coupled with their zeal for the Christian commonwealth, whereof his Majesty is the head, protector, and governor, induce them therefore to explain to him the snares now prepared, under the veil and pretext of advantage, in order to usurp the imperial dignity, and transfer the same from Germany to France. This result is to be effected by the invasion of Italy and occupation of the apostolic see in order to secure for France the spiritual and temporal monarchy of that country. The Emperor should interpose in time, not only for his own safety, but also for that of the Christian religion, which will otherwise incur great peril from the Infidels. Are desirous to form a perpetual alliance with the Emperor. Offer and promise him all the resources at their disposal, including money, for the recovery of the Milanese territory, now in the hands of the French, and are willing to cede the same territory either to him or his assigns. Agree to advance 200,000 Rhenish guilders for the above purpose: 50,000 to be paid on the ratification of a proper treaty; 50,000 on the Emperor commencing the Milanese expedition with an army; 50,000 at the end of a month from that period, and the residue at the end of the second month from the same period;—the whole sum to be applied at the Emperor's sole pleasure. Declare their firm intention of adhering perpetually to the Emperor, and of considering him the father and protector of their State. Are of opinion that under the same chief and head some honourable expedition might be undertaken against the Infidels. Are persuaded that the Emperor will accept their offers, together with so excellent an opportunity of avenging the many bitter injuries done him by his real, ancient and natural enemies, and that all Italy, who abhor the French, will side with the Emperor.

Motion made, that should Dom. Luca de Renaldi bring the said negotiation to a good end, he is to receive benefices in the Venetian territory of the annual value of 2,000 ducats; that, until put in possession, he is to be guaranteed 1,000 ducats a year from the funds of the Council of Ten; and that there be forthwith given as a gift to Dom. Luca 500 Rhenish guilders.

Ayes, 15.

[*Latin, 64 lines.*]

March 14. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 10.

**924.** LETTERS arrived from LONDON from the merchants, dated the 17th and 19th February, stating that the King of the Romans was at Brussels taking his pleasure, nor was there any rumour of war.

[*Italian.*]

March 15. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 14.

**925.** HENRY VII.

This morning a letter came from the King of England to the Signory, stating that by letters from his friend the Cardinal Adrian (Castellesi), who is at Trani, he has heard of the love the Signory bears him. Reciprocates it thoroughly, and returns thanks for the

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good greeting given to his envoy who came for the Wippach wine (*vin di Vipao*), &c.—A good and very acceptable letter.

[*Italian.*]

March 15. Misti Consiglio X., v. xxxii. p. 83.

**926.** SECRET NEGOCIATIONS with ENGLAND, the POPE, and the EMPEROR.

Motion made in the Council of Ten and the Junta to the effect that the negociations with the Pope, the Emperor, and the King of England be communicated to the Senate, with very strict injunctions to secrecy, as decreed by the Ten in these matters.

Ayes, 25. Noes, 4. Neutrals, 0.

[*Latin, 11 lines.*]

March 17. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 16.

**927.** SECRET NEGOCIATIONS with the EMPEROR and ENGLAND.

According to a decree passed by the Council of Ten and the Junta, the papal party* have been excluded and a most stringent oath to secrecy has been administered. Read to the Senate during the space of well nigh six hours the secret negociation treated in England and Germany, the commission given to Zuan Piero Stella, who went as secretary to the King of the Romans in Flanders, accompanied by Alvise di Piero; three reports made by Octavian di Calepio, who went in the name of Zacaria Contarini, captain of Cremona, to Trent and Inspruck, and lately to Salzburg to Dom. Paul Lichtenstein, who was holding a certain diet there, to ascertain whether the King of the Romans would fairly negociate peace with the Signory; also a letter from the King (of the Romans), dated Ghent, 26th February, addressed to Dom. Paul (Lichtenstein), professing good will, but replying to Zacaria Contarini, that he could say nothing until after the diet convoked at Worms for the middle of Lent had been held; also that Dom. Paul and the Bishop of Trent are favourable to the Signory, and do not wish for war.

The negociation with the King of England was also divulged, and the commission given to Andrea Badoer, who is gone incognito as ambassador to England, and is to confer there with the consul Lorenzo Giustinian, and one Nicolò da Ponte, a Venetian merchant.

[*Italian.*]

March 19. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 17.

**928.** INSTRUCTIONS for the VENETIAN AMBASSADOR in ENGLAND.

Motion made in the Senate by the Sages to write to Andrea Badoer, the ambassador in England, detailing to him all the instructions given to Zuan Piero Stella, so that, together with the consul Lorenzo Giustinian and Nicolò da Ponte, they may induce the King of England to persuade the King of the Romans to accept the State's proposals.

Amendment proposed by Andrea Venier, Sage of the Council:—That in the said instructions there be notified all the offers made to the King of the Romans.

Reply made by the knight Paulo Pisani, Sage of the Council.

Amendment of Venier seconded by Luca Zeno, and carried by a majority.

[*Italian.*]

* Namely, individuals connected with the court of Rome through churchmen, their relations.

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March 19.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**929.** The DOGE and SENATE to ANDREA BADOER, AMBASSADOR in ENGLAND.

Recently received letters from Lorenzo Giustinian, the consul in London, dated 22nd to 24th February, announcing that he had executed the orders given him concerning the King, with whom he had held a long conference. Charge him (Badoer) to endeavour to obtain audience of the King immediately, and after thanking his Majesty for his affection towards the State, to add that the Signory, having by letters from the consul heard the hint given by the King, that by some means they should negotiate their reconciliation with the King of the Romans, had determined to take measures forthwith to that end. Have been unable to do so previously, to avoid breaking faith with France; but are now at liberty to act, for the King of France, without any legitimate cause, has violated the alliance, as known to the whole world. Had sent a secretary to open their heart to the King of the Romans, not so much in general terms as in detail, and now give the particulars in compliance with the request of the King of England, as follow:—Offer the King of the Romans all their troops, both horse and foot, for the recovery of the Milanese from the French, which province when recovered is to be given to whomsoever the King of the Romans shall think fit. Will also advance a considerable sum of money, and furnish all the means and forces of the Republic, and enter into a sincere and perpetual union with the holy Roman empire. Having spoken as aforesaid to the King of England, is to urge him, of his authority and wisdom, to favour so good a work for the welfare of the Christian commonwealth and advantage of his friends, considering moreover the well known malignant and gigantic projects of the French.

Is to execute the present commission alone, for greater repute; but to obtain all such information and favour as he shall deem necessary from the State's faithful subjects [in London]. To address Dom. Pietro Carmeliano in language calculated to confirm his present good bias, and declare to him the Signory's wish to do what may be to his profit and pleasure. To avail himself of Carmeliano's advice and introduction to the King.

Should the King insist on knowing the amount of money offered by the State to the King of the Romans, to name the sum of 200,000 Rhenish florins.

[*Italian*, 63 *lines*.]

March 20.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**930.** The DOGE and SENATE to LORENZO GIUSTINIAN, CONSUL in LONDON.

On the ambassador's (Badoer) arrival, the consul is to deliver the enclosed letters and the cipher and to assist in deciphering. In case of the ambassador's nonarrival, he shall execute the contents of the said letters, and acquaint the State speedily with the result.

[*Italian*, 7 *lines*.]

March 24.
Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 23.

**931.** NEWS from ENGLAND.

Receipt of letters from England in cipher from the consul Lorenzo Giustinian, dated 7th March. The King well disposed

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The galleys are there, and the King directs them to load as much as they can, and not to fear.

[*Italian.*]

April 5. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 55.

**932.** NEWS from ENGLAND.

Receipt of news from London, through a private letter to Mafio Bernardo from a friend of his, dated 23rd March—how a Venetian merchant had arrived in London, by name Andrea Badoer, a great linguist, who was seeking for a house, and was supposed to be ambassador; but the Signory has received no letters from said Badoer.

[*Italian.*]

April 10. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 63.

**933.** NEWS from ENGLAND.

Receipt of letters from the ambassador Andrea Badoer, dated London, 20 March, announcing his arrival there, having encountered great perils on the way. His horse fell upon him; subsequently he was well nigh drowned. After conferring with the consul Giustinian and [the merchant] Da Ponte, he sent to tell the King, who was ill, of his arrival. The King expressed satisfaction, and when better will give him audience. In the meanwhile, would array himself as an ambassador, and had found his commission there, &c.

[*Italian.*]

April 22. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 93.

**934.** RECEIPT of NEWS, that down to the 14th, the King [of France] had not quitted Milan because the King of England was *in extremis;* though through other channels it is heard that today or tomorrow he will be in Milan.*

[*Italian.*]

April 23. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii.

**935.** CARDINAL ADRIAN, BISHOP of BATH and WELLS.

Arrival at Lido in the past night of the Cardinal Adrian (Castellesi, Bishop of Bath and Wells); he came in the vessels with the flag of the late captain General Priuli, accompanied by Alvise Darmer, late governor of Trani.

The Doge went to meet him at Lido with the barges, as also did the Patriarch, the Spanish and Ferrarese ambassadors, Giacomo da Pesaro, Bishop of Paphos, and other patricians, but the Sages of the College remained in consultation.

The Cardinal landed at San Georgio Maggiore, where a house had been prepared for him by the Old Accountant's Office, and it being St. George's Day he went into the church; and ultimately the Doge escorted him to his apartments.

This Cardinal has a bishopric in England, which yields him an annual rental of 6,000 ducats, and other benefices besides. He is hostile to the Pope on account of certain letters which were written by him (Adrian) to the King of England, and which the King returned to the

* There were two contradictory reports, one that Lewis XII. hesitated to quit Milan and take the field, when, on the 14th April, he heard of the expected death of Henry VII.; the other that Lewis XII., instead of being at Milanon the 14th April, was not expected to arrive there until the 22nd or 23rd.

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Pope: so the Cardinal being in fear for his life quitted Rome for Trani, a Venetian possession in Puglia, where he was well received by order of the Signory; but the Pope still endeavouring to get him into his power, he came for greater safety to Venice. Has only eight persons with him; says he shall stay either here or at Padua for a few days, and then go to England.

[*Italian.*]

April 24. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**936.** The DOGE and SENATE to the AMBASSADOR in ENGLAND, ANDREA BADOER.

Have not heard from him for many days, his last letters being dated 23d March. They likewise were unable to write, owing to the difficulty of finding messengers; send the present by a messenger despatched by the Cardinal Adrian (Bishop of Bath and Wells). The King of France has lately declared war against the State through a herald, saying he did so because last year the State broke faith to him by forming a confederacy with the King of the Romans; the amount of truth contained in which assertion is notorious to the whole world. Even before this announcement the French troops ravaged the Cremonese, and took some unimportant places. The King of France is said to be now near Milan in person, and to make great threats.

The papal troops have in like manner invaded the territory of Cervia, plundering and slaying with such horrible and unheard of cruelty that the Infidels could not have done worse, nor has it ever been possible for the Signory to appease the Pope by any offers even of the Venetian towns of Rimini and Faenza. The Pope does everything at the instigation of the King of France, who blinds him to his own interests and peril, as well as to those of the apostolic see, and to the imminent ruin of all Italy. Have no news from the imperial court, much to their surprise, their secretary having arrived there long ago. Believe all this result to proceed from the intrigues of the French, who keep the King of the Romans, as it were, under restraint, to bring him to their desires. Expatiate on the importance of these facts: if they be not provided for immediately, the King of France will easily obtain that [universal] dominion alluded to in the ambassador's commission. Is to acquaint the King of England with all particulars, and encourage him to act whilst time serves, and first of all, to persuade the King of the Romans not to trust those who have so often deceived him, but to turn back to that road which will lead to his profit and honour and to that of the holy Roman empire. Announce the arrival at Venice of the Cardinal Adrian, who has been received with honor, as due both for his own sake and on account of the King of England, who, as known to the State, loved him, and recommended him by letter;—were assuredly gratified by seeing his right reverend lordship, in whom they had recognized many singular endowments, very worthy of so chief a grade in the Church of God. Will accommodate him with everything possible, on both these accounts.

The Cardinal has told them that he kept an agent at the English court, by name D. Polydoro (Vergil), with whom he (Badoer) may

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confer, and make use of his (Polydoro's) favor and assistance in such matters as should seem fitting.

[*Italian*, 48 *lines*.]

April 25. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 101.

**937.** DEPARTURE of ADRIAN CARDINAL BISHOP of BATH and WELLS.

St. Mark's Day. The Doge went to church as usual. In the morning Cardinal Adrian departed for Padua, where he will remain some days, and then proceed to England. At Padua he lodged in the Foscari house, in the "Arena," at the "*Eremitani*." It was said he would rent the Arena. He was accompanied by Alvise Darmer, who is his very great friend.

[*Italian*.]

April 26. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 106.

**938.** PRIVATE LETTERS from ENGLAND through the Florentines, dated 29th March, that the Flanders galleys, Agostin da Mulla captain, were on the eve of departure, having loaded and hired two barks for their safe convoy; but nothing was heard of the King's illness.

[*Italian*.]

April 27. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 110.

**939.** HENRY VII.

Letters arrived last evening from England, from the ambassador Andrea Badoer, in cipher, dated 29th March, stating that the King of England was very ill and utterly without hope of recovery. The King had also written to France desiring the King of France to observe the articles stipulated with him, not to molest any vessel under any flag on its voyage to and from England; so he must not molest the Signory's galleys.

[*Italian*.]

April 28. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 113.

**940.** The VENETIAN AMBASSADOR in ENGLAND.

Receipt of a letter from Andrea Badoer, the ambassador, dated London, 29th March, the second letter received from him. Narrates his journey and arrival there with great peril. The sick King was very ill and his life in danger. The King sent to say that when recovered he should be glad to see Badoer. Nicolò da Ponte negotiates with the King and is his friend. Badoer has arrayed himself like an ambassador, but has no money, and so demands a remittance, which is requisite to make an honourable figure. It seemed strange to all there, especially to the Florentines, that he should come incognito. The King had issued an order for the galleys and ships of the Venetians to be well treated throughout the island, which had caused much comment, and also suspicion of an understanding between England and Venice.

Motion made by the sages in the Senate, and carried, for a letter to be written to the ambassador in England, desiring him if possible, to obtain audience of the King, and should the King die, then to condole with the son, congratulate him on his accession, and pray him to act against France, because France seeks the ruin of the Archduke (Charles of Burgundy).

Also for bills of exchange for 400 ducats to be sent to the ambassador and advices of current events.

[*Italian*.]

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April 28.
Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**941.** The DOGE and SENATE to ANDREA BADOER, AMBASSADOR in ENGLAND.

Repeat instructions contained in their letters forwarded on the 25th, complaining of the insatiable ambition of France.

Acknowledge receipt of his letters dated 29th March, and as he announces the dangerous illness of the King, whose death might since have occurred, the fact having even been asserted by many men of Florence, charge him in that case to condole with his son and successor the new King on his father's demise, and congratulate him on his own accession. Is then to follow the instructions contained in his original commission, and urge an immediate attack on the King of France, alleging amongst other things the facility now offered for any invasion, France being at this present utterly ungarrisoned in the direction of England.

Is also to avail himself of the favour of the Reverend Carmeliano and of any others he may deem fit, to induce the new King, who the Doge and Senate understand is by nature most thoroughly inclined that way, to act against France. Charge him to endeavour to bias those who govern the new King, and to promise the usual gratitude of the State to such as further its policy. Desire him to return most ample thanks for the royal letters for the security of the Flanders galleys. Praise his diligence. Respecting the suit made by the Pope to have an English ambassador for the Turkish affairs, acquaint him first of all that his Holiness does not make the demand for that purpose, but solely for the sake of giving repute and favour to the stir, which he, together with the King of France, has raised against Christians. Is desired, therefore, should the King of England send an ambassador to Rome, to exhort the Pontiff to make peace with Christians, and to turn his arms against Infidels as is his duty. Should he confer with the new King, is to justify the Signory's proceedings by the arguments with which he is well acquainted, so as to impress him with the truth and confirm his good opinion of the Signory. In conclusion, in the event of the royal demise, is to use every effort to keep the new King well affected towards the State. Order for a remittance of 400 ducats to the ambassador for his expenses.

[*Italian*, 40 *lines*.]

May 8.
Sanuto Diaries. v. viii. p. 145.

**942.** DEATH of HENRY VII. and ACCESSION of HENRY VIII.

Receipt of letters from Rome, dated the 3rd and 4th, stating that sure news had been received there of the death of the King of England on the 20th of April, and his son had succeeded to the kingdom peaceably; and this the Pope said in the Consistory. The truth of this was also known on the 6th at Lucca, as read in letters dated the 26th, received from London by the bankers Bonvisi,* who have a bank there; and that down to that day, the Flanders galleys, commanded by Agostin da Mula, were there. The new King is —— years old, a worthy King and most hostile to France; it is

* The "Bonvisi," *alias* "Bonvixi," of London, had a firm at Lucca, to whom they announced the death of Henry VII.

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thought he will indubitably invade France, and has perhaps had our galleys detained, for the conveyance of troops. He is the son-in-law of the King of Spain. His name ———; and it seems that he was crowned there on the 26th. The King his father was called Henry, —— years of age; was a very great miser, but a man of vast ability, and had accumulated so much gold that he is supposed to have more than well nigh all the other Kings of Christendom. This King, his son, is liberal and handsome, the friend of Venice and the enemy of France; and the ambassador Andrea Badoer and [Nicolò] da Ponte, who is intimate with the King, being on the spot, and his councillors being hostile to the French, the King will assuredly take the offensive: so that this intelligence is considered most satisfactory.

[*Italian.*]

May 10. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 169.

**943.** News from England.

Receipt by the merchants of letters from London, dated 26th April, namely, from —— Grimani, Ferigo Morosini, and Lorenzo Pasqualigo, announcing the King's death for certain on the 21st, and the accession of the King, his son, who swore as usual to wage war on the King of France immediately after the coronation; and that news will soon be heard of his invading France. Also on the 26th the Flanders galleys quitted Hampton; write account of their cargoes.

[*Italian.*]

May 16. Deliberazioni Senato Secreta.

**944.** The Doge and Senate to Andrea Badoer, Ambassador in England.

Have written twice lately, desiring him to condole with the King on the death of his father, and to rejoice at his own most auspicious accession. It is now fit they should acquaint the King that on the 14th inst., their army, being in the Ghiaradadda, was defeated by the French, but with small loss of life. After the rout, the troops were reforming, to check, if possible, the enemy's progress. Desire him to inform the King that they, considering his Majesty their principal friend, and wishing under all circumstances to continue the friendship and observance maintained with his father, acquaint him with this event, expressing their conviction that it will have rendered the King of France so elate and haughty, that not only will he prepare to make himself emperor, but to become monarch of the world, and that, unless the Christian princes undertake without delay to oppose him, he will, without doubt, effect his project. That therefore his Majesty [of England] should forthwith take steps to thwart such plans: nor will they on their part fail doing their utmost to check the fury and rage of the King of France; though, unless England, the one power able to effect a diversion, speedily make some notable provision, there will no longer be any remedy. Is to do his utmost to prevail upon the King to act instantaneously, the rout of the Ghiaradadda rendering it very difficult to stay the progress of the French.

Is to use the agency of the Brescian secretary (Carmeliano),

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should he deem it profitable, and of such lords and others as shall seem fit to him, promising them in the State's name that they will never forget such assistance, and will show gratitude proportioned to the quality of the service, than which they could receive none greater.

[*Italian*, 41 *lines.*]

May 18. Sanuto Diaries, v. viii. p. 219.

**945.** LETTERS arrived from the AMBASSADOR in ENGLAND; ANDREA BADOER, dated London, 15th April, narrating how he is there without plate; cannot do honour to the Signory; would require money, &c. The King was ill, but had sent some of his councillors to him, who told him to state the object of his embassy; so he said his coming was caused by the attack on the Signory by the King of France. They expressed regret, said that the King would act, but was prevented by illness, and showed him a brief written by the Pope to the King, inviting him to act against the Turks and Infidels; to which the King had answered, that he lauded the project, but was unable to comply by reason of his malady,—that he was pleased at the peace made between the King of the Romans and the King of France, but grieved to hear that France was hostile to the Signory of Venice, which fact was at variance with an attack on the Infidels, as the Signory is a power which might do much with a fleet, wherefore the Pope should see to allaying these dissensions, &c. Forwards copies of the brief and letter.

Postscript.—Today, the 21st, the King has died, and is succeeded by his son, who is gone to Westminster, as usual, where he will remain till after the coronation. The deceased King had written to the King of the Romans to provide for these disagreements between France and the Signory, and wrote to the King of France to observe the stipulation between them, that all ships and other vessels, to whomsoever they may belong, bound to or from the island, be at liberty to make the ports of France; wherefore he must not maltreat Venetian vessels. This new King is magnificent, liberal, and a great enemy of the French, and will be the friend of the Signory.

[*Italian.*]

# ADDENDA.

*(The following entries were discovered too late to be inserted in their proper place.)*

1459.
Jan. 17.
Library of the Venetian Archives.

**946.** PROTEST of a BILL OF EXCHANGE* for 100 ducats, drawn at Venice on the 17th October 1458, by Marcho da Cha da Porto, at usance, on Antonio da Lutiano and Co. in London, and in their favour, at the exchange of 48*d.* per ducat.

On 17th January 1459, accompanied by William Styfford, clerk, citizen of London, by imperial authority notary public, and by the witnesses Salvaigo and Bernabò Pivello, both of Genoa, Anthony Bertie, vice-agent of Antonio da Lutiano and Co., and in their name, went to the dwelling of Peter Bonamitié, London citizen and scrivener, in Lombard Street, parish of St. Mary's Woolnoth, where he presented the aforesaid bill, and had it read; replying that said Antonio de Lutiano and Co. refused payment, and enquiring whether anybody in front of that dwelling would pay the bill, expressing his readiness to receive the sum, &c.; and nobody answering, he protested against the said Marcho, and all others bound; the billbroker Giovanni Frescobaldi declaring that on that day in London the ducat was worth 44½*d.*

[*Latin, parchment,* 23 *lines.*]

1489.
Oct.
Sforza Archives, Milan.

**947.** GIAN GALEAZZO SFORZA, DUKE OF MILAN, to HENRY VII.

Alludes to his former letters delivered by Benedetto Spinola, announcing the safe arrival of *Magister* John Anthony Carbonari, from whom he most gladly heard the King's gracious message. Returns thanks for it, and also for two very staunch hounds born in England,† and such as he desired; with which he was so delighted, that nothing could be more agreeable to him.

Refers himself, for farther assurances of mutual affection, to the verbal statement of Francesco Pagnano, whom he is sending to him as special envoy.

[*Original draft, Latin. No date.*]

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* Discovered among unsorted papers at the "Frari," in February, 1864.
† "*Ex istâ insulâ prodituros*:"—of English breed?

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*** *Since pages* 19–27 *went to press the Signor Osio has published various documents concerning Sir John Hawkwood and his comrades, in the first number of a work entitled,* "DOCUMENTI DIPLOMATICI TRATTI DAGLI ARCHIVJ MILANESI," (*pp.* 139–191). *They illustrate Hawkwood's life from the beginning of* 1370 *until his marriage in* 1377, *of which they give an account.*

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....., ....., ..... to France, 498, 499, 504, 505, 507, 508, 510, 511, 512, 515, 522, 523, 526, 530.
....., ....., and Brothers, 646.
Zutphen, in Guelderland, 849.

# ERRATA, &c.

Page lx, line 16, for "In the year 1588" read "On the 27th January 1586."
Page cxxix, for "Paoluzzi" read "Panluzzi."
Page cxxix, last line, for "three" read "eleven"; numbers four to eleven having been published this year in a volume entitled "*Le Relazioni degli Stati Europei, lette al Senato dagli Ambasciatori Veneziani nel secolo XVII, raccolte ed annotate da Nicolò Barozzi e Guglielmo Berchet.—Serie IV.—Inghilterra.—Volume unico.*"
Page cxxxi, between "Lorenzo Pasqualigo" and "Hieronymo Molin" insert—

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hieronymo Molin | 1515, April 21 | Giustinian Despatch, | April | 21. |
| Lorenzo Pasqualigo | 1517, March 31 | „ „ | March | 31. |
| Hieronymo Molin | 1518, May 2 | „ „ | May | 2. |

Nos. 9 and 19, for "Edw. III." read "Edw. II."
No. 41, for "Luia" read "Luca."
No. 61, for "Cenesari" read "Ceresari."
No. 66, for "Ulrei" read Ulric."
No. 69, for "whom" read "who."
No. 71, for "the Doge" read "Gonzaga."
No. 81, after "company" insert "—— (*hist.*)"
No. 238, for "public notary" read "notary public."
No. 273 (line 1), for "act" read "fact."
No. 335, for "Edw. IV." read "Henry VI."
No. 374 (line 1), before "to" insert "——."
No. 443, for "Caboot" read "Caboto."
No. 502, for "traffuk" read "traffic."
No. 524 (line 4), for "your" read "our."
Page 269 (line 1), before "Decree" insert "766 a."
No. 818, for "Pasqualigo" read "Capello."
No. 871 (in margin), for "March 28" read April 28."
No. 903, for "Machiel" read "Michiel."

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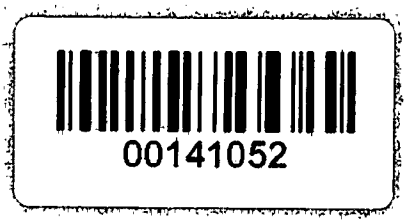

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